THE

BRITISH CRITIC,

For JULY, 1801.

Pro captu lectoris habent ſua fata libelli,
Sed me judicii non pœnitet—— TER. MAUR.

Good books, or bad, if readers chooſe, may ſell,
And yet the critic may have judg'd them well.

ART. I. *An Hiſtorical Tour in Monmouthſhire, illuſtrated with Views, by Sir R. C. Hoare, Baronet; a new Map of the County, and other Engravings. By William Coxe, A. M. F. R. S. F. A. S. Rector of Bemerton and Stourton. One Volume, in Two Parts.* 4to. 4l. 4s. Cadell and Davies. 1801.

MONMOUTHSHIRE, formerly part of Wales, but now an Engliſh county, may be conſidered as the connecting link between the principality and England: it is rendered peculiarly intereſting from its Roman, Britiſh, and Norman antiquities, and from the illuſtrious perſonages to whom it has given birth, or afforded titles; it abounds alſo in pictureſque ſcenery. From the pen of Mr. Coxe, employed on ſuch a ſubject, a ſuperior gratification muſt be expected: his Travels in Switzerland, and the northern kingdoms of Europe, and his high reputation in the republic of letters, juſtify hopes which, in the preſent publication, are not diſappointed. Mr. Coxe gives the following account of his motives for undertaking to write this Tour, his means of acquiring information, and the ſcope of the publication.

" The preſent work owes its origin to an accidental excurſion into Monmouthſhire, in company with my friend Sir Richard Hoare, during the autumn of 1798. I was delighted with the beauties of the ſcenery; I was ſtruck with the picturesque ruins of ancient caſtles memorable in the annals of hiſtory, and I was animated with the view of manſions diſtinguiſhed by the reſidence of illuſtrious perſons; objects which the ſketches of my friend's pencil rendered more impreſſive.

" On my return, I examined my notes, peruſed the principal books relating to Monmouthſhire, and convinced that ſo intereſting a country deſerved particular notice, formed the plan of a tour, which ſhould combine hiſtory and deſcription, and illuſtrate both with the efforts of the pencil. Sir Richard Hoare ſtrongly encouraged me in my undertaking, offered to accompany me again into Monmouthſhire, and to ſupply me with additional views.

" Accordingly in the ſpring of 1799, I explored the country in various directions, and received aſſiſtance from many gentlemen and men of letters; but as the materials were ſtill defective, and as a want of time and unfavourable weather prevented me from viſiting the ſequeſtered and mountainous diſtricts, I made a third excurſion in the autumn of the ſame year.

" In the courſe of theſe three journeys, I employed five months, and traverſed 1500 miles, and now preſent to the public the reſult of my obſervations and reſearches.

" In this work, the reader muſt not expect to find a regular hiſtory of Monmouthſhire; but a deſcription of the principal places, intermixed with hiſtorical relations and biographical anecdotes, and embelliſhed with the moſt ſtriking views, for which I am principally indebted to my friend Sir Richard Hoare, whoſe perſevering zeal and activity claim my warmeſt gratitude.

" Lanſanfraed Houſe is ſituated five miles and a half from Abergavenny, ten from Monmouth, four from Raglan, and ſeven from Uſk; and its central poſition renders it extremely convenient for the purpoſe of exploring the country. Unacquainted with a ſingle gentleman, when I firſt entered the country, I was introduced to Mr. Greene, by my friend Sir Richard Hoare; his hoſpitable manſion was open to me at all times, and on all occaſions, without form or ceremony; I was left at full liberty to make excurſions as my fancy or inclinations ſuggeſted; and on my return, after the fatigues of the day, I enjoyed the comforts of an agreeable ſociety. In this delightful reſidence, I firſt conceived the plan of writing a Tour in Monmouthſhire; Mr. Greene zealouſly encouraged and aſſiſted me in the proſecution of the work; through his introduction, I became acquainted with the principal gentlemen and men of letters, and obtained acceſs to various documents and intereſting papers."

It is pleaſing to find, from the numerous liſt of friends and benefactors, that the principal gentlemen and men of letters in the county vied in acts of hoſpitality and attention to this traveller; and Mr. Coxe dwells with grateful ſatisfaction on the benefits he derived from their aſſiſtance and communications.

In

In peruſing this Tour, the reader may eaſily imagine himſelf travelling through the county with a companion of learning, taſte, and experience, who ſometimes relates his own impreſſions on former excurſions, ſometimes gives the natural or local hiſtory of the ſcene, interſperſed with judicious and ſeaſonable information reſpecting the illuſtrious individuals, whoſe perſons are called to his recollection by the view of their manſions, the fame of their exploits, or the ſight of their portraits. Even the minuter topics of converſation incident to ſuch an excurſion find a place; the wonder-fraught tales of the peaſantry; the whimſical miſtakes of innocent credulity; and the accidents, perils, and eſcapes of individuals, are related with a taſte and *naiveté* perfectly ſuited to the ſcene and the actors. But biography, deſcription, and anecdote, do not occupy the whole volume; the great intereſts of mankind are viewed with the eye of a politician and philoſopher; the means and progreſs of improvement are faithfully deduced, and ſagaciouſly inveſtigated; and the information afforded reſpecting the commerce of the county is copious, and derived from the beſt ſources.

Mr. Coxe has ſhewn great judgment in not modelling his work on the plan of a mere county hiſtory, or uniformly adopting the dry detail of a journal; but while he avoids the tediouſneſs of dates, or the minuteneſs of county diviſions, he is not deficient in method and order.

In his Introduction, he ſlightly touches on the poſition and preſent ſtate of the county. It is ſurrounded by the counties of Somerſet, Gloceſter, Hereford, Brecknock, and Glamorgan; from which it is principally ſeparated by the Severn, the Wy, the Monnow, and the Rumney. The principal rivers which traverſe Monmouthſhire are the Wy, the Uſk, and the Rumney. The Wy is navigable during its whole courſe through the country; the Uſk, by means of the tide, from New Bridge near Fredonnoc; and the Rumney only from the Bridge, not three miles from its mouth. The Trothy and the Monnow, joined by the Honddy at Attyrynnys, fall into the Wy near Monmouth; and the Uſk is ſwelled by numerous mountain torrents, of which the principal are the Gavenny, the Kebby, the Olwy, the Berthin, the Torvaen or Avon Lwyd, and the Ebwy, which receives the Sorwy. The county ſends two members to Parliament, and is divided into the ſix hundreds of Abergavenny, Scenfreth, Wentloog, Uſk, Raglan, and Caldecot. The population may be conjectured from the number of men between fifteen and ſixty, returned, in 1798, in the ſeveral hundreds, as capable of bearing arms, which amounted to 11,835. If the proportion of the males between

fifteen and ſixty may be eſtimated at one fourth of the whole population, including both ſexes, the number of ſouls in the county of Monmouth will be 47,340, or, in round numbers, 48,000. Monmouthſhire is compriſed in the dioceſe of Landaff, except Dixon, Welſh Bicknor, and St. Mary's Church in Monmouth, which belong to the dioceſe of Hereford, as do Cwmyoy, Oldcaſtle, and Lanthony, to that of St. David.

The Welſh language is more prevalent than is uſually ſuppoſed: in the north-eaſtern, eaſtern, and ſouth-eaſtern parts, the Engliſh tongue is in common uſe; but in the ſouth-weſtern, weſtern, and north-weſtern diſtricts, the Welſh, excepting in the towns, is generally ſpoken. The natives of the midland parts are accuſtomed to both languages: in ſeveral places divine ſervice is performed wholly in Welſh, in others in Engliſh, and in ſome alternately in both. The natives of the weſtern parts, which are ſequeſtered and mountainous, unwillingly hold intercourſe with the Engliſh, retain their ancient prejudices, and ſtill brand them with the name of Saxons; this antipathy, however, is gradually decreaſing, by means of the eſtabliſhments of Engliſh ſchools, and the introduction of Engliſh manners, cuſtoms, and manufactures. Their animal and vegetable productions are ſimilar to thoſe in the hilly counties of England; and the only fiſhes, not common in the Engliſh rivers, are the ſkerling and the ſewin, the latter of which principally abounds in the Ebury. The mountainous diſtricts are rich in mineral productions, particularly iron and coal, which have given riſe to numerous iron manufactories, and conſiderably increaſed the population and riches of the county.

Mr. Coxe then proceeds to give a general view of the county hiſtory at different periods, and an intereſting account of the Roman ſtations and roads, as well in Monmouthſhire as in the adjacent parts, principally drawn from the communications of the Rev. Thomas Leman; and his Introduction, which is divided into three ſections, concludes with ſome remarks on the encampments, caſtles, and churches.

The author commenced his Tour at the new Paſſage, and viſited Caerwent, Newport, Caerleon, Uſk, Raglan, Abergavenny, Pontypool, and Monmouth; from whence he proceeded to Roſs, and went down the Wye by Tintern to Chepſtow; making from each place numerous excurſions. Of theſe, perhaps, the moſt intereſting are the ſummits of the Sugar Loaf and *Yſcared*, to the magnificent remains of Lanthony Abby, to the beautiful vallies of the Ebwy and Sorwy, the navigation down the Wye, and the celebrated grounds of Piercefield.

Among the biographical ſketches, interſperſed through the work, the memoirs of Lord Herbert of Cherbury, Sir Charles

Hanbury Williams, and Harry Marten the Regicide, are the moſt remarkable. Much ingenious and taſteful diſquiſition is employed in treating of the legends of Geoffry of Monmouth, and in unravelling the contradictory and fallacious accounts of John of Kent.

With reſpect to antiquities, Mr. Cox has accurately deſcribed the Roman remains at Caerwent and Caerleon, the only known veſtiges of the Roman power in Monmouthſhire, and has unqueſtionably traced the line of the Roman walls, which are faithfully delineated in the annexed plans.

We are happy to find that Mr. Coxe, in general, is more correct in the orthography of the Welſh languages than former writers, and we eaſily trace the maſterly aſſiſtance of Mr. Owen, the learned author of the Britiſh Dictionary, to whom Mr. Coxe pays his grateful acknowledgments, and his friend, Mr. Evans, Vicar of Newport St. Woolos, from whom he derived much local and important information.

The execution of this work is in the moſt diſtinguiſhed ſtyle of elegance, both in the letter-preſs and the graphic embelliſhments. The plates amount to ninety, excluſive of vignettes; compriſing views and plans of Roman ſtations, towers, caſtles, and ancient encampments; portraits of celebrated perſons, and a new and accurate map of the county. The views are principally from the pencil of Sir Richard Hoare; a few, of great beauty, are by Miſs Edith Palmer, of Bath; and the plans of ſtations, towns, caſtles, and encampments, are taken from actual ſurvey.

We ſhall now afford our readers a ſpecimen of the ſtyle in which the Tour is written.

"*Excurſions to the Summits of the Sugar-Loaf and Great Skyrrid.*

"Having received repeated accounts of the different and contraſted views from the tops of the Sugar-Loaf and Skyrrid, I determined to viſit them on the ſame day. I departed at ſeven in the morning from Abergavenny, rode about a mile along the Hereford road, mounted the eaſtern ſide of the Derry, in the dry bed of a torrent, came to a heathy down, and gently aſcended to the bottom, which below appears like a cone, and is called the Sugar-Loaf.

"The ſides of the mountain are covered with heath, wortle-berries, and moſs, to the height of a foot, which renders the aſcent ſo extremely eaſy, that a light carriage might be driven to the baſe of the cone, not more than one hundred paces from the ſummit. I diſmounted near a rock, which emerges from the ſide of the ridge, forming a natural wall, and reached the top without the leaſt difficulty. This elevated point, which crowns the ſummit of the four hills, is an undulated ridge, about a quarter of a mile in length, and two hundred yards

yards in breadth, with broken crags ſtarting up, amid the moſs and heath with which it is covered.

" The view from this point is magnificent, extenſive, and diverſified. It commands the counties of Radnor, Salop, Brecknock, Monmouth, Glamorgan, Hereford, Worceſter, Gloceſter, Somerſet, and Wilts. To the weſt extends the long and beautiful Vale of the Uſk, winding in the receſſes of the mountains, and expanding to the ſouth into the fertile plain, which is terminated by the Clytha Hills. Above it towers the magnificent Blorenge, almoſt equal in height to the point on which I ſtood; and in the midſt riſes the undulating ſwell of the Little Skyrrid, appearing like a gentle eminence feathered with wood. To the north, a bleak, dreary, ſublime maſs of mountains, ſtretches in a circular range, from the extremity of the black mountains above Lanthony to the Table Rock near Crickhowel; the commencement of the great chain which extends from theſe confines of Monmouthſhire, acroſs North Wales, to the Iriſh Sea. To the eaſt, I looked down on the broken crags of the Great Skyrrid, which ſtarts up in the midſt of a rich and cultivated region. Beyond, the Malvern Hills, the Graig, the Garway, and the eminences above Monmouth, bound the horizon. Above, and on the ſide of Brecknockſhire, all was clear and bright; but below, and to the ſouth, there was much vapour and miſt, which obſcured the proſpect, and prevented my ſeeing the diſtant Severn, and the hills in Somerſetſhire and Gloceſterſhire.

" This elevated point riſes 1852 perpendicular from the mouth of the Gavenny, and is ſeen from Bitcomb Hill, near Longleat, in the county of Wilts, and from the Stiper Stones, in the county of Salop, near the borders of Montgomeryſhire.

" During my continuance on the ſummit, I felt that extreme ſatisfaction which I always experience, when elevated on the higheſt point of the circumjacent country. The air is more pure, the body more active, and the mind more ſerene; lifted up above the dwellings of man, we diſcard all groveling and earthly paſſions; the thoughts aſſume a character of ſublimity, proportionate to the grandeur of the ſurrounding objects; and as the body approaches nearer to the ethereal regions, the ſoul imbibes a portion of their unalterable purity*.

" Reluctantly quitting the ſummit, I walked down the ſide of the Derry, facing the precipitous crags of the dark Skyrrid, and in an hour entered the Hereford road, two miles from Abergavenny, where I arrived at half paſt eleven†.

" After taking ſome refreſhment and repoſe, I departed at two for the ſummit of the Skyrrid, on horſeback, and accompanied with the ſame guide who had conducted me to the top of the Sugar-Loaf. Having rode two miles along the road leading to White Caſtle, we attempted to aſcend towards the ſouth-weſtern part of the mountain, which is diſtinguiſhed with three ſmall fiſſures. I ſoon diſcovered that

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" * Rouſſeau.

" † I would recommend travellers who viſit the top of the Sugar Loaf, to aſcend the Derry from the Hereford road, and to deſcend the ſide of the Rolben."

the guide was unacquainted with the way, and on enquiring of a farmer, was informed that the uſual route led by Landewi Skyrrid; by his direction, however, we continued at the foot of the mountain, through fields of corn and paſture, and then proceeded along a narrow path, overſpread with high broom, which in many places quite covered my horſe. Forcing our way with ſome difficulty through this heathy wood, we rode over a moor, by the ſide of the ſtone wall and hedge, which ſtretch at the baſe, reached the path leading from Landewi Skyrrid, and aſcended, on foot, the graſſy ſlope of the mountain.

"The heat was ſo intenſe, the fatigue I had undergone in the day ſo conſiderable, and the effort I impatiently made to reach the ſummit ſo violent, that when I looked down from the narrow and deſolated ridge, the boundleſs expanſe around and beneath, which ſuddenly burſt upon my ſight, overcame me. I felt a mixed ſenſation of animation and laſſitude, horror and delight, ſuch as I ſcarcely ever before experienced, even in the alps of Switzerland; my ſpirits almoſt failed, even curioſity was ſuſpended, and I threw myſelf exhauſted on the ground. Theſe ſenſations increaſed during my continuance on the ſummit: I ſeveral times attempted to walk along the ridge, but my head became ſo giddy, as I looked down the precipitous ſides, and particularly towards the great fiſſure, that I could not remain ſtanding. I ſtrongly felt the force of Edgar's exclamation, upon the ſummit of Dover Cliff, which is no more than a molehill in compariſon with this eminence:

"—— How fearful
And dizzy 'tis to caſt one's eyes ſo low!"
"—— I'll look no more,
Leſt my brain turn, and the deficient ſight
Topple down headlong."

"I ſeemed only ſafe when extended on the ground, and was not therefore in a condition to examine and deſcribe the beauties of the view. However, I took out my pencil, and made a few haſty notes. The ridge of the Skyrrid ſeemed to be about a mile in length, extremely narrow, in general not more than thirty or forty feet broad, and in ſome places only ten or twelve; its craggy ſurface is partly covered with ſcant and ruſſet herbage, and exhibits only a ſtunted thorn, which heightens the drearineſs of its aſpect. After remaining half an hour on the top, incapable of making any further obſervations, I deſcended and went round the eaſtern ſide of the mountain, where it terminates in an abrupt precipice near the large fiſſure.

"I walked acroſs the meadows, along a gradual deſcent, through fine groves of oaks and Spaniſh cheſnuts, to Lanvihangel Houſe, an old manſion belonging to the Earl of Oxford. It was the ancient ſeat of the Arnold family, and was ſold in 1722 to auditor Harley, anceſtor of the preſent Earl. It is now inhabited only by a farmer, and contains nothing but ſome old furniture, a few family pictures, and ſome good impreſſions of Hogarth's prints. The place is diſtinguiſhed by avenues of Scots firs, which are the largeſt and fineſt in England. From the grounds near the front of the houſe, the Skyrrid preſents itſelf with peculiar effect, the fiſſure ſeems like an enormous

chaſm,

chaſm, ſeparating two mountains, whoſe impending and craggy ſummits vie in height and ruggedneſs.

" It was near ſix o'clock, and I haſtened to join a party returning from the ruins of Lanthony Abbey. I partook of an elegant collation, provided by my friend Mr. Greene, which was ſpread on the banks of the Honddy: the wine, " Interiore notâ Falerni," was cooled in the limpid and murmuring ſtream; the evening was placid and ſerene, and I forgot the fatigues of the day in convivial intercourſe and ſocial converſation.

" On my return to Abergavenny, the moon ſhining in full ſplendour, gleamed on the craggy ridge of the Skyrrid, and tinged with its ſilvery rays the undulating and woody ſides of the Derry; forming a contraſt of beauty and ſublimity.

" In a ſubſequent tour, I made a ſecond expedition to the top of the Skyrrid. I rode along the Roſs road as far as Landewi Skyrrid, where there is an old Gothic manſion, now a farm-houſe; it formerly belonged to the family of Greville, was ſold by the late Earl of Warwick to Henry Wilmot, Eſq. ſecretary to the Lord Chancellor, and is now in the poſſeſſion of his ſon. From this place I followed a narrow ſtony bridle-way, till I reached the extremity of the Skyrrid, and walked up the ſame graſſy path which I had aſcended in my firſt excurſion.

" I attained the ſummit without making thoſe violent exertions, or experiencing the fatigue which I had before undergone, and admired the proſpect without the ſmalleſt ſenſation of uneaſineſs or laſſitude. I aſcended to the higheſt point of the mountain at its north-eaſtern extremity, where a ſmall circular cavity is formed near the verge of the precipice; it is ſuppoſed to be the ſite of a Roman Catholic chapel, dedicated to St. Michael, from which the Skyrrid has derived one of its appellations of St. Michael's Mount. I could obſerve no traces either of walls or foundations; the entrance, which is to the ſouth-weſt, is marked by two upright ſtones, two feet in height, on one of which are rudely carved ſeveral letters, amongſt which I could only diſtinguiſh " Turner 1671." To this place many Roman Catholics in the vicinity are ſaid to repair annually on Michaelmas Eve, and perform their devotions. The earth of this ſpot is likewiſe conſidered as ſacred, and was formerly carried away to cure diſeaſes, and to ſprinkle the coffins of thoſe who were interred; but whether this ſuperſtitious practice ſtill continues, I was not able to aſcertain.

" I ſeated myſelf on the brow of the cliff, overhanging the rich groves of Lanvihangel, and ſurveyed at my leiſure the diverſified expanſe of country which ſtretched beneath and around. Although the ſummit of the Skyrrid is leſs elevated than that of the Sugar-Loaf, yet its inſulated ſituation, abrupt declivity, and craggy fiſſures, produce an effect more ſublime and ſtriking than the ſmooth and undulating ſurface of the Sugar-Loaf and Derry. On the north-eaſt and eaſt, an extenſive and fertile region ſtretches from the centre of Herefordſhire to the valley of the Uſk, which, though a ſucceſſion of hill and dale, yet appears a vaſt plain, broken by a few ſolitary eminences, and bounded by diſtant hills gradually loſing themſelves in the horizon. The ſpires of Hereford Cathedral gleam in the diſtant proſpect, the

remains

remains of Groſmont Caſtle are faintly diſtinguiſhed under the Graig and Garway, and the majeſtic ruins of White Caſtle tower above the church of Landewi Skyrrid. To the ſouth, the gentle ſwell of the Little Skyrrid riſes like a hillock above the town of Abergavenny, the feathered hills of Clytha, tufted with the Coed y Bunedd, and backed with the Penncamawr, beyond which appears the æſtuary of the Severn, under the cultivated eminences of Glouceſterſhire and Somerſetſhire. To the ſouth-weſt, the eye catches a glimpſe of the Uſk, purſuing through copſes and meads its ſerpentine courſe, under a continued chain of wooded acclivities. To the weſt and north-weſt, I looked down on a grand and dreary maſs of mountains, extending from Abergavenny beyond the frontiers of Herefordſhire, and domineered by the elegant cone of the Sugar Loaf. The Black Mountains form the northern extremity of this chain, and are interſected by the ſequeſtered valley of the Honddy. Beneath yawned the abyſs of the ſtupendous fiſſure, which appears to have been cauſed by ſome violent convulſion of nature, and, according to the legends of ſuperſtition, was rent aſunder by the earthquake, at the crucifixion of our Saviour: hence it is alſo denominated the Holy Mountain, by which name it is chiefly diſtinguiſhed among the natives.

" After contemplating the chaſm above, I endeavoured to enter it down the weſtern ſide of the mountain; but, finding the declivity too precipitous, remounted the ridge, and deſcended the gentler ſlope to the eaſt. Proceeding along its baſe, I turned round its north-eaſtern extremity, which terminates in an abrupt and tremendous precipice, and paſſing over fragments of rock, entered the fiſſure on the north-weſtern ſide of the mountain. This chaſm is not leſs than three hundred feet in breadth; the rugged ſide of the Skyrrid riſes perpendicular as a wall, to an amazing height:

—— " the ſhrill-gorged lark ſo far
Cannot be ſeen or heard."

The oppoſite crag is equally perpendicular, though far leſs elevated. At ſome diſtance it appears like an enormous fragment, ſeparated from the mountain. Its ſhape, and the ſtrata of the rock, reſemble that part of the Skyrrid from which it ſeems to have been detached; but a nearer view convinced me, that it never could have fallen from the ſummit. Many ſimilar fiſſures I obſerved in the Alps, and they are common in mountainous regions. The frequent ſprings, oozing through the interſtices of the rocks, undermine the foundation, and the vaſt maſſes, thus deprived of ſupport, either ſink, or are ſeparated from each other, till by degrees great chaſms are formed, and the mountain ſeems to have been rent aſunder. The weſtern ſide of the ſmaller crag, which bounds the fiſſure, is wholly overhung with underwood, and forms a ſingular contraſt with the bare and rugged precipice of the parent mountain.

" I quitted this intereſting mountain with regret, at the approach of evening, and as I rode ſlowly through the narrow vale, which ſeparates the Skyrrid from the Pen y hills, I looked up to the " dread ſummit of the craggy bourn," on which I had experienced ſuch various ſenſations.

" Skyrrid!

" Skyrrid! remembrance thy loved ſcene renews;
Fancy, yet lingering on thy ſhaggy brow,
Beholds around the lengthened landſcape glow;
Which charmed, when late the day-beam's parting hues
Purpled the diſtant cliff." *Sotheby's Poems*, p. 57.

We ſhall cloſe this article with a part of the memoirs of Sir Charles Hanbury Williams. Many more paſſages of the work deſerve the compliment of being extracted, but our other duties will not juſtify the indulgence of our inclinations.

" Charles Hanbury (Williams) was born in 1709, and educated at Eton, where he made conſiderable progreſs in claſſical literature; and, having finiſhed his ſtudies, travelled through various parts of Europe. Soon after his return he aſſumed the name of Williams, obtained from his father the eſtate of Coldbrook, and eſpouſed, in 1732, Lady Francis Coningſby, youngeſt daughter of Thomas Earl of Coningſby.

On the death of his father in 1733, he was elected Member of Parliament for the county of Monmouth, and uniformly ſupported the adminiſtration of Sir Robert Walpole, whom he idolized: he received from that miniſter many early and confidential marks of eſteem, and in 1739 was appointed by him paymaſter of the marines. His name occurs only twice as a ſpeaker, in Chandler's Debates; but the ſubſtance of his ſpeech is given in neither inſtance.

" Sprightlineſs of converſation, ready wit, and agreeable manners, introduced him to the acquaintance of men of the firſt talents; he was the ſoul of the celebrated coterie, of which the moſt conſpicuous members were Lord Hervey, Winnington, Horace Walpole (late Earl of Orford) Stephen Fox (Earl of Ilcheſter) and Henry Fox (Lord Holland) with whom in particular he lived in the ſtricteſt habits of intimacy and friendſhip. At this period, he diſtinguiſhed himſelf by political ballads remarkable for vivacity, keenneſs of invective, and eaſe of verſification. He did not however confine his ſatire to politics, but deſcended into private life; with much wit, and little delicacy, he wrote a ſevere lampoon on the marriage of Mr. Huſſey, afterwards Lord Beaulieu, with Iſabella, daughter and heireſs of John Duke of Montague, and widow of William Duke of Mancheſter, whoſe exquiſite beauty attracted general admiration.

" Wide was the extent of her commands,
O'er fertile fields, o'er barren lands,
She ſtretch'd her haughty reign:
The coxcomb, fool, and man of ſenſe,
Youth, manhood, age, and impotence,
With pride receiv'd her chain*."

" The Ode was written in 1743, ſoon after the marriage, and confined to the peruſal of his intimate friends; but copies being indiſcreet-

" * Ode to Henry Fox, Eſq. on the marriage of the Ducheſs of Mancheſter.

ly circulated, it became public in 1746, to the chagrin and diſſatisfaction of the author.

" Mr. Huſſey bore the ſevere attack with great forbearance; but the Hibernian ſpirit was rouſed by the illiberal ſatire againſt the whole nation:

" Nature indeed denies them ſenſe;
But gives them legs, and impudence,
That beats all underſtanding;"

and ſeveral Iriſh gentlemen in London ſeem to have entered into a combination to challenge the author. To avoid a ſucceſſion of duels, by the advice of his friends, he prudently retired into Monmouthſhire, though he did not himſelf entertain ſerious apprehenſions of danger*.

" * Theſe facts are principally drawn from a Letter written to him by his friend Mr. Fox, which is preſerved in the collection at Pont y Pool.

" *War-Office, Sept.* 6, 1746.

" My dear Sir Charles,

" You may well wonder I have not wrote to you, but I have thought ſo much about the ſcrape your laſt ode has been like, and may ſtill be like to draw you into, that I could not write without endeavouring to inform you of the truth, and have not yet been able to get at the truth of the various reports that have been made about it.

" What is certain, I believe, is that Huſſey came to Holland houſe to enquire for you ſome hours after you went. You know I thought it natural that he might expoſtulate with you about it; but as he actually ſet out for Ireland laſt Sunday, to ſtay at leaſt till May, I thought it certain, and ſtill think that reſentment muſt drop and be forgot. But it has been too ſtrongly to have no ground reported, that the Iriſh (to ſhew they have underſtandings) have determined to make an irreconcileable quarrel of it; and that a dozen or fourteen had entered into mutual promiſes, that the firſt who met ſhould affront you; and farther, that one Mr. Mervin had promiſed Mr. Huſſey to be his proxy in the quarrel as ſoon as you ſhould come to town. You may laugh at all this; but I do aſſure you at the ſame time, that every body ridicules and condemns it. Your ſerious friends, and I in the firſt place, think it puts you in a diſagreeable ſituation, and I am heartily and exceſſively concerned about it.

" Lord Harrington will talk to Dumville about it, and thinks as I do, and other pains will be taken to bring theſe gentlemen to better ſenſes than their own; and I flatter myſelf that it ſubſides, and the ridicule of making a perſonal quarrel of a national reflection, muſt be acknowledged. I have heard too, that Mr. Mervin ſays his aſking for you at White's was as Mr. Huſſey's meſſenger, not on his own account.

" But I ſtill think you will run riſque of being affronted, though the abſurd engagement to challenge you they will be aſhamed of; and what good telling you all this does, I don't know. But you can't imagine how very uneaſie I have been, and ſhall be about it, till I am ſure 'tis all over."

His

His abſence, and the intervention of friends, cooled the anger of thoſe whom his ſatire had provoked, gave them time to reflect on the abſurdity of converting a national into a perſonal quarrel, and their cauſe was juſtly avenged by ſome counter lampoons, which vied with his own ſprightlineſs and wit*.

" In 1746 he was inſtalled Knight of the Bath, and ſoon after his return to London, appointed envoy to the court of Dreſden; a miſſion which his lampooners imputed to cowardice†, but which he attributes to a nobler motive; his affliction for the death of his friend Mr. Winnington, which threw him into a temporary fit of deep melancholy, and conſiderably affected his health. An Epitaph‡ which he compoſed to his memory, is written with much feeling, and a Letter to Sir Thomas Robinſon on that event, does honour to his friendſhip.

" I am here a good deal retired, and in a melancholy way, which I have been in ever ſince the death of my friend Mr. Winnington, in whom my country loſt an uſeful citizen, and the man upon earth I loved the beſt. 'Twas upon his death I begged the king to ſend me abroad, and reſigned a very profitable employment to come out of a country where I miſſed an object that I eſteemed and honoured very highly, and where every thing daily put me in mind of him. When he dy'd he had much the beſt intereſt of any man in England with the king; and had three times in one day returned the Chancellour's of the Exchequer Seal into the king's hand, who wou'd fain have forc'd it upon him; but he was ſteady to his friends, and the cauſe in which he had embark'd, and proof againſt the temptation of power itſelf§."

" The votary of wit and pleaſure was inſtantly transformed into a man of buſineſs, and the author of Satirical Odes penned excellent diſpatches. He was well adapted for the office of a foreign miniſter, and the lively no leſs than the ſolid parts of his character, proved uſeful in his new employment: flow of converſation, ſprightlineſs of wit, politeneſs of demeanour, eaſe of addreſs, conviviality of diſpoſition, together with the delicacy of his table, attracted perſons of all deſcriptions. He had an excellent taſte for diſcriminating characters, humouring the foibles of thoſe with whom he negociated, and conciliating thoſe by whom the great were either directly or indirectly governed.

" In 1749 he was appointed, at the expreſs deſire of the king, to ſucceed Mr. Legge as Miniſter Plenipotentiary to the Court of Berlin; but in 1751 returned to his embaſſy at Dreſden. During his reſidence at theſe Courts, he tranſacted the affairs of England and Hanover with ſo much addreſs, that he was diſpatched to Peterſburg, in a time of

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" * Stop, ſtop, my ſteed, hail Cambria, hail," &c.
" Who's that, what, Hanbury the lyric," &c.

" † Think you becauſe you baſely fled
To Saxony to hide your head,
On Odes you ſtill may venture?" &c.

" ‡ See Sir Charles H. Williams's Odes.
" Near his paternal ſeat, here buried lies," &c.

" § Grantham Papers. Dreſden, July 10, N. S. 1747."

critical

critical emergency, to conduct a negociation of great delicacy and importance."

We reluctantly omit the particulars of his miniſterial ſituation, which are related in a very intereſting manner. He retained his office of ambaſſador till the year 1757, but latterly with ſo much fatigue and vexation, from the nature of the buſineſs, that he ſolicited his recal. At the mutual deſire of his own Court and that of Pruſſia, he remained a few months longer at Peterſburg, but

" all his efforts proved unſucceſsful, and the Empreſs coaleſced with Auſtria and France. In the midſt of this arduous buſineſs his health rapidly declined, his head was occaſionally affected, and his mind diſtracted with vexation; the irregularities of his life irritated his nerves, and a fatiguing journey exhauſted his ſpirits.

" Soon after his arrival at Hamburgh, in the autumn of 1757, he was ſuddenly ſmitten with a woman of low intrigue, gave her a note for 2,000l. and a contract of marriage, though his wife was ſtill living; he alſo took large doſes of ſtimulating medicines, which affected his head, and was conveyed to England in a ſtate of infanity. During the paſſage, he fell from the deck into the hold, and dangerouſly bruiſed his ſide; he was blooded four times on board, and four times immediately after his arrival in England. In a little more than a month he recovered, and paſſed the ſummer at Coldbrook-Houſe. From this place he wrote a letter to his friend Mr. Keith, which proves the calm ſtate of his mind, and breathes the warmth of paternal affection:

" By a letter which I wrote to Baron Wolfe ſome time ago, and which I don't doubt he ſhewed, you have been informed already of the wretched ſtate of my health, both at Hamburgh and ſince my return to England. But I am now as perfectly well as ever I was in my life, and improving this charming place, where I hope to ſee you one day, to talk over things that nobody but you and I in England underſtand.

" My beloved Lady Eſſex, who I aſſure you has a true friendſhip for you, and who I believe eſteems you as much as any man in the world, who is not of her own family, will I hope be very ſoon here to paſs away the beſt part of the ſummer with me; I leave you to imagine my happineſs in ſeeing her, to behold what I love much the beſt in the world, endowed with every exterior charm, and an inſide that at leaſt equals her beautiful perſon. Her knowledge of the court and of the world is prodigious. She has many acquaintance among her own ſex, and two of the moſt exemplary women we have in England for her friends, I mean Lady Catherine Fox, and the Counteſs of Dalkeith. She is diſtinguiſhed more than any woman that comes to Court by the King; and for good breeding and good ſenſe, has hardly her equal in England. But one thing, which perhaps you don't know about her is, that ſhe ſhines full as much in the character of a good houſewife, as ſhe does in that of a fine lady; and all the accounts of my Lord's eſtates, and the expences of his houſe, are neatly kept in

in books by her own hand. In ſhort, ſhe has exceeded all my hopes, and requited my fondeſt wiſhes about her; and I will not imagine this deſcription to be tedious to you, becauſe I am ſure the friend will feel and read with pleaſure, what the father feels with tranſport, and writes with truth."

"Towards the latter end of 1759, he relapſed into a ſtate of inſanity, and expired on the 2d of November, aged 50.

"His official diſpatches are written with great life and ſpirit; he delineates characters with truth and facility; and deſcribes his diplomatic tranſactions with minuteneſs and accuracy, but without tediouſneſs or formality.

"The verſes of Sir Charles Hanbury Williams were highly prized by his contemporaries, and the letters of his friend Mr. Fox, abound with extravagant commendations of his poetical talents; but in peruſing thoſe which have been given to the public, and thoſe which are ſtill in manuſcript, the greater part are political effuſions, or licentious lampoons, abounding with local wit and temporary ſatire, eagerly read at the time of their appearance, but little intereſting to poſterity. Three of his pieces, however, deſerve to be exempted from this general character; his Poem of Iſabella, or the Morning, is remarkable for eaſe of verſification, and happy diſcrimination of character; his Epitaph on Mr. Winnington is written with great feeling; and his beautiful Ode to Mr. Pointz, in honour of the Duke of Cumberland, breathes a ſpirit of ſublimity, which entitles the author to the rank of a poet, and excites our regret that his muſe was not always employed on ſubjects worthy of his talents.

"Sir Charles left by his wife two daughters, Frances, firſt wife of William Anne late Earl of Eſſex, and Charlotte, who eſpouſed the Honourable Robert Boyle Walſingham, youngeſt ſon of the Earl of Shannon, a Commodore in the navy."

Such is the nature of this work, in which the ſtudent will find various information, and the man of taſte an entertainment congenial to his feelings and purſuits.

ART. II. *Phytologia, or the Philoſophy of Agriculture and Gardening, with the Theory of draining Moraſſes, and with an improved Conſtruction of the Drill Plough. By Eraſmus Darwin, M. D. F. R. S.* 4to. 612 pp. 1l. 11s. 6d. Johnſon. 1800.

IN a ſhort Introduction, of little more than one page, Dr. Darwin informs his readers, that his object is to attempt a theory of vegetation, deduced principally from the experiments of ſeveral eminent perſons, ſuch as Hales, Grew, Malpighi, &c.

Whoever contemplates the works of nature; whoever attempts to enumerate and to deſcribe the multitude of natural objects

objects which ſtrike the human ſenſes on every ſide, is unavoidably forced to remark, and to acknowledge, an indefinite gradation of bodies differing in form, power, magnitude, and other properties. But while he admires their variety and their powers, while he endeavours to comprehend their ſtructure and their dependence, he ſeeks in vain for the beginning, and for the end of the ſeries; he attempts, without effect, to diſcover any preciſe limits between its parts; for who can perceive and deſcribe the primitive particles of matter, or who can ſay which is the moſt complicated body of the creation? Where is the real limit between animals and vegetables, and which is the philoſophical diſtinction between the human and the inferior ſpecies?

Yet human induſtry has attempted, with uſeful effect, to diſtinguiſh the animal from the vegetable, and theſe from other objects; has ſubdivided each of thoſe grand diviſions into leſſer parts, and has aſſigned to each certain characteriſtic diſtinctions, which render the attainment, and the communication of natural knowledge, eaſy and determinate. But thoſe artificial diſtinctions of an uninterrupted ſeries are unavoidably defective, ſince they preſcribe limits to what has no known limits; they define what is incapable of any preciſe definition. Hence, between the bordering limits of any two contiguous claſſes or diviſions, ſome equivocal objects do neceſſarily exiſt, and which may be ſaid to belong to either of the claſſes, or to none. Hence alſo is derived an inexhauſtible ſource of diſpute, of declamation, and of pedantic remarks. But whoever wiſhes to preſerve order and perſpicuity, whoever is a true lover of knowledge, will naturally ſtrive to adhere to the ſcientific diſtinctions, as being the only means of rendering ourſelves intelligible; and will, at the ſame time, avoid all ſuch equivocal words, or ſtrained meanings and expreſſions, as can only be productive of doubt and confuſion.

The author of the work, which is at preſent under our examination, has evidently paid little attention to the abovementioned neceſſary precaution; nor is this defect compenſated by an adequate quantity of new matter, or uſeful knowledge. We ſhall, however, as far as it is in our power, endeavour to lay before our readers ſuch paſſages, and ſuch remarks, as may enable them to form an adequate idea of the work; giving firſt a general view of its contents.

This work is divided into three Parts, the contents of which are as follows:

Part I. Phyſiology of Vegetation.

Sect. I. Individuality of the Buds of Vegetables.
II. Their Abſorbent Veſſels.
III. Their Umbilical Veſſels.

Sect.

Sect. IV. Their Pulmonary Arteries and Veins.
V. Their Aortal Arteries and Veins.
VI. Their Glands and Secretions.
VII. Their Organs of Reproduction.
VIII. Their Muſcles, Nerves, and Brain.
Part II. Economy of Vegetation.
IX. The Growth of Seeds, Buds, and Bulbs.
X. Manures, or the Food of Plants.
XI. Of Draining and Watering Lands.
XII. Aeration and Pulverization of the Soil.
XIII. Of Light, Heat, Electricity.
XIV. Diſeaſes of Plants.
Part III. Agriculture, and Horticulture.
XV. Production of Fruits.
XVI. Production of Seeds.
XVII. Production of Roots and Barks.
XVIII. Production of Leaves and Wood.
XIX. Production of Flowers.
XX. Plan for diſpoſing a Part of the Syſtem of Linneus into more natural Claſſes and Orders.
Appendix.—Improved Conſtruction of the Drill Plough.

In the firſt ſection, this author aſſerts that plants are inferior animals; that every bud of a tree is an individual vegetable being, and therefore a tree is a family or ſwarm of individual plants, like the polypus with its young growing out of its ſides, or like the branching cells of the coral-inſect.

"In the inoculation," he ſays, "and ingrafting of fruit-trees, five or ſix different kinds of pears are frequently ſeen on the branches of one tree, which could not then properly be termed an individual being."

In ſupport of thoſe aſſertions, Dr. Darwin adduces a variety of obſervations, or rather verbal than phyſical diſtinctions. He alſo ſpecifies the difference between animals and vegetables in the following words.

"As vegetables are immovably fixed to the ſoil, from whence they draw their aliment ready prepared, and this uniformly, and not at returning intervals; it follows, that in examining their anatomy, we are not to look for muſcles of locomotion, as legs and arms; nor for organs to receive and prepare their aliment as a mouth, throat, ſtomach, and bowels, by which contrivances animals are enabled to live many hours without new ſupplies of food from without.

"The parts, which we may expect to find in the anatomy of vegetables, which correſpond to thoſe in the animal economy, are firſt a threefold ſyſtem of abſorbent veſſels, one branch of which is deſigned to imbibe the nutritious moiſture of the earth, as the lacteals imbibe the chyle from the ſtomach and inteſtines of animals; another to imbibe the

the water of the atmoſphere, opening its mouths on the cuticle of the leaves and branches, like the cutaneous lympathic veſſels of animals; and a third to imbibe the ſecreted fluids from the internal cavities of the vegetable ſyſtem, like the cellular lymphatics of animals.

"Secondly, in the vegetable fetus, as in ſeeds or buds, another ſyſtem of abſorbent veſſels is to be expected, which may be termed umbilical veſſels, as deſcribed in Sect. III. of this work, which ſupply nutriment to the new bud or ſeed, ſimilar to that of the albumen of the egg, or the liquor amnii of the uterus; and alſo another ſyſtem of arterial veſſels, which may be termed placental ones, correſponding with thoſe of the animal fetus in the egg or in the womb, which ſupply the blood of the embryon with due oxygenation before its nativity.

"Thirdly, a pulmonary ſyſtem correſpondent to the lungs of aerial animals, or to the gills of aquatic ones, by which the fluid abſorbed by the lacteals and lymphatics may be expoſed to the influence of the air. This is done by the leaves of plants, or the petals of flowers; thoſe in the air reſembling lungs, and thoſe in the water reſembling gills.

"Fourthly, an arterial ſyſtem to convey the fluid thus elaborated to the various glands of the vegetable for the purpoſes of its growth, nutrition, and ſecretions; and a ſyſtem of veins to bring back a part of the blood not thus expended.

"Fifthly, the various glands which ſeparate from the vegetable blood the honey, wax, gum, reſin, ſtarch, ſugar, eſſential oil, and other ſecretions.

"Sixthly, the organs adapted to the lateral or viviparous generation of plants by buds, or to their ſexual or oviparous propagation by ſeeds.

"Seventhly, longitudinal muſcles to turn their leaves to the light, and to expand or cloſe their petals or their calyxes; and vaſcular muſcles to perform the abſorption and circulation of their fluids, with their attendant nerves, and a brain, or common ſenſorium, belonging to each individual ſeed or bud; to each of which we ſhall appropriate an explanatory ſection." P. 5.

And further on he ſays;

"Now as the internal pith of a bud appears to contain or produce the living principle, like the brain and medulla oblongata, or ſpinal marrow of animals, we have from hence a certain criterion to diſtinguiſh one bud from another, or the parent bud from the numerous budlets, which are its offſpring, as *there is no communication of the internal pith between them.*" P. 8.

At the end of this ſection the reader is inclined to aſk, what can all this mean?

The ſecond ſection contains a variety of obſervations, the importance of which may be gathered from the following quotations.

After deſcribing how the abſorbent veſſels of plants may be rendered viſible, namely, by placing twigs of a fig-tree, or of

ſeveral other plants, for a ſhort time in a decoction of log-wood, or madder, &c. and then viewing them through a common magnifying-glaſs, he ſays,

"These abſorbent veſſels have been called bronchia by Malpighi and Grew, and ſome other philoſophers, and erroneouſly thought to be air-veſſels; in the ſame manner as the arteries of the human body were ſuppoſed to convey air by the antients, till the great Harvey by more exact experiments and juſter reaſoning, evinced that they were blood veſſels. This opinion has been ſo far credited becauſe air is ſeen to iſſue from wood, whether it be green or dry, if it be covered with water, and placed in the exhauſted receiver of an air-pump; and theſe veſſels have therefore been ſuppoſed to conſtitute a vegetable reſpiratory organ; but it will be ſhewn hereafter, that the leaves of plants are their genuine lungs, and that the abſorbent veſſels and arteries become accidently filled with air in the dead parts of vegetables.

"For as the veſſels of vegetables are very minute, and have rigid coats, their ſides do not collapſe when they are cut or broken, as their juices flow out or exhale; they muſt therefore receive air into them." P. 12.

"There are nevertheleſs certain horizontal veſſels of large diameter, which paſs through the bark of trees to the alburnum, which probably contain air, as they are apparently empty, I believe, in the living vegetable; for the bark of trees conſiſts of longitudinal fibres, which are joined together, and appear to inoſculate at certain diſtances, and recede from each other between thoſe diſtances like the meſhes of a net, in which ſpaces ſeveral horizontal apertures are ſeen to penetrate through the bark to the alburnum, according to Malpighi, who has given a figure of them, which is copied in Plate I. Fig. 2. of this work. Very fine horizontal perforations through the bark of trees are alſo mentioned by Duhamel, which he believes to be perſpiratory or excretory organs, but adds, that there are others of much larger diameter, ſome round and ſome oval, and which in the birch-tree ſtand prominent, and pierce the cuticle or exterior bark." P. 13.

"These horizontal veſſels I ſuppoſe to contain air incloſed in a thin moiſt membrane, which may ſerve the purpoſe of oxygenating the fluid in the extremities of ſome fine arteries of the embryon buds, in the ſame manner as the air at the broad end of the egg is believed to oxygenate the fluids in the terminations of the placental veſſels of the embryon chick." P. 14.

"The abſorbent veſſels of vegetables, like thoſe of animal bodies, are liable to err in the ſelection of their proper aliment, and hence they ſometimes drink up poiſonous fluids, to the detriment or deſtruction of the plant. Dr. Hales put the end of a branch of an apple-tree, part of which was previouſly cut off, into a quart of rectified ſpirit of wine and camphor, which quantity the ſtem imbibed in three hours, which killed one half of the tree. Veg. Stat. p. 43. Some years ago I ſprinkled on ſome branches of a wall-tree a very ſlight ſolution of arſenic, with intent to deſtroy inſects; but it at the ſame time deſtroyed the branches it was thrown upon. And I was informed by Mr. Wedgewood,

Wedgewood, that the fruit-trees planted in his garden near Newcaſtle in Staffordſhire, which conſiſted of an acid clay beneath the factitious ſoil, became unhealthy as ſoon as their roots penetrated the clay; and on inſpection it appeared, that the ſmall fibres of the roots, which had thus penetrated the clay, were dead and decayed, probably corroded by the vitriolic acid of the clay, beneath which is a bed of coals.

"It is, however, aſſerted by M. Buffon, that the roots of many plants will creep aſide to avoid bad earth, or to approach good. Hiſt. Nat. Vol. III. But this is perhaps better accounted for by ſuppoſing, that the roots put out no abſorbent veſſels, where they are not ſtimulated by proper juices; and that an elongation of roots in conſequence only ſucceeds, when they find proper nutriment." P. 18.

Dr. D. having in the firſt and ſecond ſections ſufficiently ſhown, as he thinks, the ſimilarity between ſeveral vegetable and animal parts, adopts, in the third and ſubſequent ſections, the terms which have been generally uſed to denote the parts of the latter, in explanation of thoſe of the former. Thus, in deſcribing the germination of ſeeds, he ſays,

"During the great action of theſe umbilical abſorbent veſſels the buds become expanded, that is, the young vegetable beings put forth leaves, which are their lungs, and conſiſt of a pulmonary artery, vein, and abſorbents, and alſo acquire a new bark over that of the branches, trunk, and roots, of the laſt year, which conſiſts of aortal arteries, veins, and abſorbents, and new radicles, which terminate in the ſoil. At this time the umbilical veſſels, which exiſted in the alburnum, or ſap-wood, ceaſe to act, and coaleſce into more ſolid wood, perhaps ſimply by the contraction of the ſpiral fibre, of which they are compoſed; and the ſwarm of new vegetables, which conſtitute a tree, are now nouriſhed by their proper lacteal and lymphatic ſyſtems." P. 30.

The third ſection ſhows the ſimilarity between the generation of animals and of vegetables; the ſeeds are compared with the eggs, and certain parts of vegetables are ſhown to correſpond to certain parts of animals. The like is ſhown with reſpect to their nouriſhment, growth, &c. But this ſimilarity, as far as it will go, has occurred to, and has been ſhown by, a variety of writers.

The contents of the fourth ſection are very numerous, and are arranged under the principal heads, of 1, Leaves; 2, Aquatic Leaves; 3, Root Leaves; 4, Floral Leaves; 5, And the Coral. The concluſion of this ſection is as follows:

"We may draw this general reſult, that the common leaves of trees are the lungs of the individual vegetable beings, which form during the ſummer new buds in their boſoms, whether leaf-buds or flower-buds, and which in reſpect to the deciduous trees of this climate periſh in autumn; while the new buds remain to expand in the enſuing ſpring. Secondly, that the bractes, or floral leaves, are the lungs of the pericarp or uterus, and to the growing ſeeds which it contains, as the

bractes on the ſtem of the crown-imperial, fritillaria imperialis, and the tuft above its flowers. And, thirdly, that the corals or petals are the lungs belonging to the anthers and ſtigmas, which are the ſexual or amatorial parts of the plant, and to the nectaries for the ſecretion of honey, and to the other glands which affords eſſential oil and wax.

" Laſtly, the ſtamina and ſtigma with the petals and nectary, which conſtitute the vegetable males, and the amatorial part of the female, as they in ſome plants appear before the green leaves or bractes, as in colchicum and mezereon, and in all plants fall off when the female uterus is impregnated, would appear to be diſtinct beings, totally different both from the leaf-buds, which produce a viviparous progeny; and alſo from the bractes with the calyx and pericarp, which conſtitute the vegetable uterus.

" They muſt at firſt receive nutriment from the vernal ſap-juice, like the expanding foliage of the leaf-buds, or the bractes of the flower-buds. But when the corol becomes expanded, and conſtitutes a new pulmonary organ, the vegetable juices are expoſed to the air in the extremities of its fine arteries beneath a moiſt pellicle for the purpoſe of greater oxygenation, and for the important ſecretion of honey; and then the anthers and ſtigmas are ſupplied with this more nutritious food, which they abſorb from its receptacle, the nectary, after it has there been expoſed to the air, and are thus furniſhed with greater irritability, and with the neceſſary amatorial ſenſibility, and live like bees and butterflies on that nutritious fluid." P. 55.

In the remaining ſections of the firſt part, this author continues to point out, and to illuſtrate, the reſemblance of vegetable to animal bodies. But it is not in our power to follow him ſtep by ſtep in this long illuſtration; we cannot, however, forbear tranſcribing the following paragraphs:

" This leads us to a curious inquiry, whether vegetables poſſeſs any organs of ſenſe? Certain it is, that they poſſeſs a ſenſe of heat and cold, another of moiſture and dryneſs, and another of light and darkneſs; for they cloſe their petals occaſionally from the preſence of cold, moiſture, or darkneſs. And it has been already ſhewn, that theſe actions cannot be performed ſimply from irritation, becauſe cold and darkneſs are defective quantities of our uſual ſtimuli; and that on that account ſenſation or volition are employed; and in conſequence a ſenſorium or union of the nerves muſt exiſt. So when we go into the light, we contract the iris, not from any ſtimulus of the light on the fine muſcles of the iris, but from its motions being aſſociated with the ſenſation of too much light on the retina, which could not take place without a ſenſorium or center of union of the nerves of the iris with thoſe of viſion.

" Beſides theſe organs of ſenſe, which diſtinguiſh cold, moiſture, and darkneſs, the leaves of mimoſa, and of dionæa, and of droſera, and the ſtamens of many flowers, as of the barberry, and of the numerous claſs of ſyngeneſia, are ſenſible to mechanic impact; that is, they poſſeſs a ſenſe of touch; and as many of their diſtant muſcles are in conſequence excited into action, this alſo evinces that they poſſeſs a common ſenſorium,

ſenſorium, by which this ſenſation is communicated to the whole, and volition occaſionally exerted.

" Laſtly, in many flowers the anthers when mature approach the ſtigma, in others the female organ approaches to the male. I aſk, by what means are the anthers in many flowers, and ſtigmas in other flowers, directed to find their paramours? Is this curious kind of ſtorge produced by mechanic attraction, or by the ſenſation of love? The latter opinion is ſupported by the ſtrongeſt analogy, becauſe a reproduction of the ſpecies is the conſequence; and then another organ of ſenſe muſt be wanted to direct theſe vegetable amourettes to find each other; one probably analogous to our ſenſe of ſmell, which in the animal world directs the new-born infant to its ſource of nouriſhment; and in ſome animals directs the male to the female; and they may thus poſſeſs a faculty of perceiving as well as of producing odours.

" A moſt curious example of the exiſtence of ſome kind of ſenſe, which may direct the piſtils, or female parts of the flowers of collinſonia, which way to bend for the purpoſe of finding the mature males, is related in the Botanic Garden, Vol. I. Canto IV. l. 460, where ſome of the piſtils miſtake the males, or ſtamens, of the neighbouring flowers for their own huſbands; and bending into contact with them become guilty of adultery.

" Thus, beſides a kind of taſte or appetency at the extremities of their roots, ſimilar to that of the extremities of our lacteal veſſels, for the purpoſe of ſelecting their proper food; and beſides different kinds of irritability or appetency reſiding in the various glands, which ſeparate honey, wax, reſin, and other juices from their blood; vegetable life ſeems to poſſeſs an organ of ſenſe to diſtinguiſh the variations of heat, another to diſtinguiſh the varying degrees of moiſture, another of light, another of touch, and probably another analogous to our ſenſe of ſmell. To theſe muſt be added the indubitable evidence of their paſſion of love, and of their neceſſity to ſleep; and I think we may truly conclude, that they are furniſhed with a brain or common ſenſorium belonging to each bud.

" But whether this brain, or common ſenſorium, reſides in the medulla, or pith, which occupies the central parts of every bud and leaf, like the ſpinal marrow of animals, has not yet been certainly determined. By this medulla is meant only the pith of each individual bud, not that which is ſeen in the centre of a tree, which, like the wood which ſurrounds it, has long ceaſed to have vegetable life.

" The pith, or medulla of each bud, is ſuppoſed by its elaſticity to puſh out the central part of the bud; as the veſicular productions on the inſide of young quills are ſuppoſed to puſh forwards their early growth, and in ſome birds are ſaid by Mr. Hunter to receive air from the lungs. It is more probable that this pith, or medulla oblongata of plants, ſupplies the ſpirit of vegetation, ſince it exiſts in all buds in their moſt early ſtate, and does not communicate from one bud to another, and thus diſtinguiſh them from each other, and evinces their individuality." P. 137.

In the ſecond part, Dr. D. profeſſes to treat of the œconomy of vegetation, as far as it may ſerve the purpoſes of agriculture and gardening.

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The ninth ſection, which is the firſt of the ſecond part, contains a variety of articles, which are arranged under a great many titles and diviſions, the principal of which are, 1, Seeds reſemble Eggs; 2, Buds are a viviparous Progeny; 3, Bulbs.

Under thoſe heads, the peculiar ſtructure of ſeeds, buds, and bulbs, their varieties, the manner in which they are unfolded, nouriſhed, enlarged, &c. are deſcribed and explained.

The tenth is a ſection of conſiderable length; it treats of manures, or of the food of plants, under the following principal titles: 1, The Chyle of all Animals is ſimilar; 2, Air; 3, Water; 4, Carbon; 5, Phoſphorus; 6, Lime; 7, Clay; 8, Spontaneous Manures; 9, Chemical Manures; 10, Inſect Manure; 11, Preſervation of Manures; 12, And Application of Manures.

From this ſection we ſhall tranſcribe the following paſſages, in order to give our readers ſome idea of its contents.

"If any one ſhould aſk, what is the food of animals? I ſhould anſwer, that in the moſt early ſtate of animal life the embryon lives on a mucilaginous fluid, with which it is ſurrounded, whether in the egg or womb: that in its infant ſtate the young animal is ſuſtained by milk, which its ſtomach converts into chyle." P. 187.

"What then is the food of vegetables? the embryon plant in the ſeed or fruit is ſurrounded with ſaccharine, mucilaginous, and oily materials, like the animal fetus in the egg or uterus, which it abſorbs, and converts into nutriment; while the embryon buds of deciduous trees, which is another infantine ſtate of vegetables, are ſupplied with a ſaccharine and mucilaginous juice prepared for them at the time of their production, and depoſited in the roots or ſap-wood of their parent trees; as in the vine, maple, and birch; which ſaccharine matter is ſoluble and miſcible with the water of the ſurrounding earth in the ſubſequent ſpring, and is forcibly abſorbed by their root-veſſels, and expands their naſcent foliage." P. 189.

"We now come to conſider the food of adult plants; and in this conſiſts the great and eſſential difference between the nutritive proceſſes of animals and vegetables. The former are poſſeſſed of a ſtomach, by which they can in a few hours decompoſe the tender parts of vegetable and animal ſubſtances by a chemical proceſs within themſelves, conducted in the heat of ninety-eight degrees, with a due quantity of water, and a perpetual agitation of the ingredients; which both mixes them, and applies them to the mouths of the abſorbent veſſels, which ſurround them. Whereas a vegetable being having no ſtomach is neceſſitated to wait for the ſpontaneous decompoſition of animal or vegetable recrements; which is indeed continually going on in theſe ſoils, and climates, and in thoſe ſeaſons of the year, which are moſt friendly to vegetation; but is in other ſituations, and in other ſeaſons, a ſlow proceſs in a degree of heat often as low as forty of Farenheit (in which the reindeer moſs, moſchus rangiferinus, vegetates beneath the

the ſnow in Siberia) and often without an adapted quantity of water to give a due fluidity, or any mechanical locomotion to preſent them to the abſorbent mouths of their roots; or in ſtill worſe ſituations adult vegetables are neceſſitated ſtill more ſlowly to acquire or produce their nutritive juices from the ſimpler elements of air and water, with perhaps the ſolutions of carbonic acid and calcareous earths, and perhaps of ſome other matters, with which one or more of them abound." Ibid.

In the explanation of the articles air, water, lime, carbon, phoſphorus, and others of this ſection, a ſketch of the new chemical theory is introduced; but it is a partial and ſuperficial view of that theory.

The eleventh ſection contains a variety of local deſcriptions of ſprings, wells, moraſſes, natural and artificial drains, and other ſuch like particulars, from which ſome theoretical, as well as practical methods are derived. To this ſection alſo belong the delineations and deſcriptions of two machines for watering lands; a complicated machine on the principle of Hiero's fountain, to raiſe part of the water of a ſpring or ſmall brook, where ſome feet of fall may be acquired, to a greater height, for the purpoſe of watering higher levels of ground; and an horizontal windmill, with a centrifugal pump, to raiſe water to a ſmall elevation, where no fall can be acquired.

The twelfth is a ſhort ſection, wherein the new theory of chemiſtry is employed for explaining the beſt methods of preparing and managing the ſoil for the production of plants.

The thirteenth ſection treats of light, heat, and electricity. It mentions ſome of the principal properties of thoſe natural agents, as alſo their influence on the vegetable kingdom. But in the explanation of thoſe ſubjects, the author ſeems to labour under the diſadvantages of a confuſed knowledge and unwarrantable prepoſſeſſions.

"Philoſophers," he ſays, "are not yet agreed, whether light and heat be the ſame fluid under different modifications, or two different fluids, which exiſt frequently together. The latter opinion ſeems to be more probable from the circumſtances related below, and alſo from the analogy of other aqueous, aerial, or ethereal fluids, which appear to conſiſt of two other fluids combined or diffuſed with each other. Thus water conſiſts of oxygen and hydrogen combined together. Atmoſpheric air of oxygen and nitrogen diffuſed together. Electricity probably conſiſts of two fluids, which may be termed vitreous and reſinous electricity. Magnetiſm alſo probably conſiſts of two fluids, which conſtitute northern and ſouthern polarity. The power of attraction ſeems to conſiſt of gravitation and of chemical affinity. And laſtly, the element of fire conſiſts I ſuppoſe of light and heat. P. 295.

He alſo ſays, afterwards:

" The mechanical theory of electricity invented by Dr. Franklin, is believed by ſome philoſophers not ſo well to explain the various phenomena of electricity, as may be accompliſhed by an hypotheſis of the exiſtence of two electric fluids diffuſed together, and ſtrongly attracting each other, one of them to be called vitreous, and the other reſinous, electricity. The latter opinion I am inclined to eſpouſe, but ſhall not here enter into a detail of the theory; but ſhall only obſerve, that the experiments on vegetation have been principally made with the accumulation of the vitreous electricity only, and the conſequent excluſion of the reſinous; that is, with what is commonly termed poſitive electricity, and not with what is termed negative electricity. It is therefore to be wiſhed, that ſome future experiments may be made with the reſinous or negative electricity in preference to the vitreous or poſitive electricity, or with both of them alternately or comparatively." P. 310.

The fact is, that the theory of two electric fluids has been forſaken by all the principal modern writers on electricity, as being incapable to explain a great number of phænomena; and the theory of a ſingle electric fluid is univerſally adopted, as being both ſimple and ſufficient to explain the phænomena.

With reſpect to its influence on vegetation, we believe that the experiments which have been made with the negative, are nearly as numerous as thoſe which have been made with the poſitive, electricity. The reſult of thoſe experiments has been repreſented differently by different experimentaliſts. This ſection likewiſe contains the deſcription, with a drawing, of a curious machine on the principle of Mr. Bennet's doubler, which produces a conſtant accumulation of electricity, by the motion of the pendulum of a clock. The pendulum conſiſts of a glaſs rod, the lower part of which is furniſhed with a flat and circular metallic plate, which paſſes alternately before two other ſimilar plates, that are ſituated upon a proper ſtand; at the ſame time that the communication between thoſe plates, or with one of them, and the ground, is formed by means of certain wires, which are fixed to the pendulum rod and to the plates. We are ſorry that, for want of the plate, we cannot give a more adequate deſcription of this machine.

The fourteenth ſection enumerates and deſcribes the diſeaſes to which vegetables are ſubject; and which are arranged under the the titles of, 1, Diſeaſes from internal Cauſes; 2, Diſeaſes from external Elements; 3, Diſeaſes from Inſects; and, 4, Deſtruction by Vermin.

The third part of this work commences with the fifteenth ſection, *on the Production of Fruits*. The contents of this ſection are arranged under the following principal diviſions: 1, To produce fruit-bearing Trees; 2, To increaſe the Number of fruit Buds; 3, To perfect and enlarge the Fruit; 4, To preſerve Fruit; and, 5, Verſes on pruning Trees and Melons.

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The manner in which thoſe intereſting ſubjects are treated, will ſufficiently appear from the following extract, which relates to the preſervation of fruits.

" As life whether animal or vegetable prevents putrefaction, and as many fruits exiſt long, after they are gathered from the tree, before they become ripe and die ſpontaneouſly, and in conſequence putrefy, as crabs, ſloes, medlars, and auſtere pears. The art of preſerving theſe conſiſts in ſtoring them, where the heat is neither much above or below 48 degrees, which is the temperature of the interior parts of the earth; that is, in a dry cellar, or beneath the ſoil, or well covered with ſtraw or mats in a dry chamber. As greater heat might make them ripen ſooner, than they are wanted, by the increaſed activity of their vegetable life; and froſt by deſtroying that life would ſubject them to putrefy, when they become thawed; as perpetually happens to apples and potatoes, which are not well defended from froſt. And laſtly, the moiſture would injure them many ways; firſt by its contributing to deſtroy their vegetable life; ſecondly in promoting the chemical proceſs of putrefaction; and thirdly by its encouraging the growth of mucor, or mould, which will grow in moiſt ſituations without much light or air.

" Too great warmth deſtroys both animal and vegetable life by ſtimulating their veſſels into too great activity for a time, whence a ſubſequent torpor from the too great previous expenditure of the living power, which terminates in death. After the death of the organization a boiling heat coagulates the mucilaginous fluids, and if continued would I believe prevent the chemical fermentation of them; and that thus both vegetable and animal ſubſtances might be preſerved. The experiment is difficult to try, and could not therefore be of much practical utility if it ſhould ſucceed.

" Great cold on the contrary deſtroys both animals and vegetables by the torpor occaſioned by the defect of ſtimulus, and a conſequent temporary death. Afterwards if a great degree of cold be continued, in ſome caſes the expanſion of their freezing juices may burſt the vegetable veſſels, and thus render the life of them irrecoverable." P. 426.

The contents of the ſixteenth ſection, *on the Production of Seeds*, are arranged under nine principal heads; namely, 1, To produce Seeds early; 2, To produce Seeds in great Quantity; 3, To ripen Seeds; 4, To generate beſt Kinds of Seeds; 5, To collect good Seeds; 6, To determine the Goodneſs of Seeds; 7, To preſerve Seeds; 8, To ſow Seeds advantageouſly; 9, Queſtion concerning general Encloſure; *Cain and Abel.*

As the laſt article will moſt likely excite our readers curioſity, we ſhall tranſcribe the extraordinary paſſage, wherein Cain and Abel are moſt ſtrangely turned into political hieroglyphics.

" One very important conſequence of any country producing a greater quantity of corn, than it conſumes, and of thence exporting it to foreign nations, even by means of a bounty, conſiſts in its certainty of

of preventing famine, the moſt dreadful of human calamities; as in years of ſcarcity the ſtream of exportation can be ſtopped, and produce an ample ſupply by its ſtagnation at home.

"Hence when a great part of any tract of country becomes employed in paſturage inſtead of agriculture, the inhabitants will become conſumers of fleſh inſtead of conſumers of grain, and will conſequently decreaſe in number from the want of ſufficient ſuſtenance. Beſides which the people of agriculture are more active and robuſt than the people of paſturage, and more ingenious in the invention and uſe of machines neceſſary for the more artful cultivation of the ſoil, as well as more numerous, and will conſequently become ſuperior to them in arms and arts, and may in proceſs of time conquer them; which reminds us of the Egyptian Dynaſty of Shepherd-kings, who were ſubdued by their agricultural rivals; and alſo of the allegorical hiſtory of Cain ſlaying Abel, which were probably the names of two political hieroglyphic figures repreſenting the ages of paſturage and of agriculture before the invention of letters." P. 467.

The principal diviſions of the ſeventh ſection are under the titles of, 1, Tuberous or bulbous Roots; 2, Palmated or branching Roots; and, 3, Barks.

The principal diviſions of the eighteenth ſection have for titles, 1, Leaves are the Lungs of Vegetables; 2, Wood is produced from Leaf-Buds.

The contents of the nineteenth ſection are arranged under eight principal diviſions; namely, 1, Flowers from Seeds; 2, Flowers from Buds; 3, Flowers from Roots; 4, Eſculent and medicinal Flowers; 5, Flowers uſed in the Arts; 6, Nutritious Parts of Vegetables; 7, Happineſs of organized Nature; 8, Cultivation of Brocoli, a Poem.

The twentieth, or laſt ſection, contains *a Plan for diſpoſing part of the Vegetable Syſtem of Linneus into more natural Claſſes and Orders.*

Dr. Darwin obſerves, with much acuteneſs, that thoſe claſſes which are deduced from the proportions or ſituations of the ſtamina, or which include the number of the ſtamina along with their proportions and ſituations, appear to be more natural claſſes, than thoſe which are diſtinguiſhed ſimply by the number of them. Hence, he ſays,

"As the claſſes deduced from the proportions or ſituations of the ſtamina alone, or conjointly with their reſpective number, appear thus to produce more natural diſtribution of vegetables, than thoſe derived ſimply from their number; it might have been more fortunate for the ſcience of Botany, if the great author of the ſexual ſyſtem had turned his mind to have claſſed all of them from the proportions, ſituations, and forms of the ſtamina alone, or from theſe conjointly with their number, and to have diſtinguiſhed the orders according to the proportions, ſituations, or forms of the piſtilla alone, or conjointly with their numbers.

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" The great uſe of diſtributing plants into natural claſſes is not only for the purpoſe of more readily diſtinguiſhing them from each other, and diſcovering their names, but alſo for that of more readily detecting the virtues or uſes of them in diet, medicine, or the arts; as for the purpoſes of dying, tanning, architecture, ſhip-building; which has already been happily experienced in attending to the genera or families of plants, which are all natural diſtributions of them, whence the ſame virtues or qualities generally exiſt among all the ſpecies of the ſame genus, though perhaps in different degrees.

" 2. But another great advantage would probably occur from deducing the characters of the claſſes of vegetables from the ſituations, proportions, or forms of the ſexual organs rather than from their number; which is, that theſe criterions of the claſſes and orders would be much leſs ſubject to variation." P. 565.

This author then proceeds to ſhow in what manner the characters of the claſſes and orders might be formed; and points out ſeveral advantages which are likely to attend the adoption of ſuch a plan. He acknowledges, however, the difficulty of the undertaking, and the danger of introducing other inconveniences by the attempt.

The above-mentioned ſections are followed by a few pages of additional Notes; to which is ſubjoined an ample Appendix on the improvement of the Drill-Plough, and an Index.

This work contains twelve copper-plate engravings.

Should the reader, after this rather long account, deſire our opinion of the work, we may expreſs it in the following conciſe manner:

A ponderous quarto volume, of upwards of 600 pages, not thinly printed, and worth a guinea and a half, contains a vaſt number and variety of particulars; namely, ſcientific, hiſtorical, economical, political, poetical, ſerious, jocoſe, true, falſe, and doubtful. They are moſtly extracted from the works of other authors; but they are digeſted and arranged without much diſcrimination, or proper criticiſm. The ſuperficial manner in which this author treats the very promiſing titles of the ſections, frequently induces his readers to aſſert, that he *keeps the word of promiſe to our ear, and breaks it to our hope.*

ART. III. *Alfred, an Epic Poem, in Six Books. By Henry James Pye.* 4to. 1l. 5s. Wright. 1801.

ON the difficulties attending the production of an Epic Poem it muſt be unneceſſary to expatiate, readers of all deſcriptions being agreed that it is the moſt arduous effort of poetical ſkill, and requires the co-operating favour of all the Muſes.

How

How far Mr. Pye is qualified for ſuch an undertaking, a very long catalogue of publications, which have each, and all, been received with warm applauſe, ſatisfactorily teſtifies. The ſubject which he has choſen for the preſent exerciſe of his poetical talents, is one which comes home to the feelings of every true Engliſhman; and, conſidering the circumſtances of the preſent period, is moſt peculiarly appoſite. The ſtory of Alfred alſo contains within itſelf all that the livelieſt imagination, aided by the trueſt and warmeſt patriotiſm, could poſſibly require. The anecdotes it involves are ſo various, and ſo intereſting; and the great and important conſequences which are produced, diſtinguſh it with every feature, and every quality, a poet could demand.

Mr. Pye has divided his Poem into ſix Books, with an arrangement of the ſeveral parts, which indicates a claſſical taſte and correct judgment.

The Firſt Book introduces the arrival of Alfred at the court of Gregor, King of Caledonia. After beſtowing ſome animated lines on the ancient hoſpitality of the Scotiſh nation, the poet happily makes the reader acquainted with the principal incidents in the life of Alfred, to the period of his being defeated at Wilton by the Danes.

We think the Introduction ſpirited and pertinent, except perhaps that it is a little enfeebled by a quotation at ſo early a period as the tenth line. It is impoſſible not to compare the appearance of Alfred before the Scottiſh monarch, with that of Ulyſſes at the court of Alcinous—"Stranger, whoe'er thou art," &c. &c. is conceived and expreſſed in the true ſpirit of Homeric narration.

The Second Book deſcribes the ſuccour offered Alfred by Gregor, their ſhipwreck on the coaſt of Wales, with the well-known and popular ſtory of the retreat of Alfred to the neatherd's cottage. The reader will be pleaſed to ſee how this part of the Poem is managed.

> "Not to the ſplendid palace of the great,
> The pride of affluence, or the pomp of ſtate,
> Is Charity confin'd,—her heavenly reign
> Scorns not the hovel of the cottage ſwain.—
> Soon from the cates, by frugal labour ſtor'd,
> The aged herdſman ſpreads his homely board,
> And the neat houſewife with aſſiduous care
> Joys in the hoſpitable toil to ſhare,
> While courteſy, not ſuch as courts impart,
> But the pure language of the generous heart,
> Vouches, with ſmiles that Flattery ne'er expreſs'd
> The genuine welcome of the wandering gueſt,

Around

Around the monarch, as the infant race
The narrow room in childiſh gambol trace
His warlike hands in ſportive frolic ſeize,
Or cling, with liſping fondneſs, to his knees,
His manly boſom melts with mild delight,
The ſcenes of joy domeſtic charm his ſight;
And while his hoſts with hoſpitable care,
Their viands for their unknown king prepare,
With all a parent monarch's feelings fraught,
His whiſpering fancy thus embodies thought—
" Here in full colours to my eyes are ſhown
The true ſupporters of the regal throne;
'Tis from induſtrious Labour's hard-earn'd bread,
That Opulence is deck'd, and Luxury fed,
'Tis from the ruſtic ſwain's diurnal toil,
Who bows the woods and turns the ſtubborn ſoil,
Tends his meek flock beneath inclement ſkies,
Bids orchards bend with fruit, and harveſts riſe,
That Commerce draws, with powerful graſp, the ſtores
Of every clime from Earth's remoteſt ſhores,
That navies o'er the obedient billow ride,
That gallant armies ſhine in banner'd pride.
All that the ſwelling ſail and cordage yield,
The bark itſelf was rear'd on Labour's field;
The radiant arms in War's bright van that ſhine
Were dug, by ruſtic labour, from the mine;
From ruſtic labour ſprings the iron frame
Nor danger can appal, nor hardſhip tame.
The ſons of ſedentary Art in vain
Pour ranks, unuſed to labour on the plain;
Subdued by toil and want each ſickly form
Shrinks like the flowret from the vernal ſtorm,
While Labour's hardy ſon the blaſt defies
As England's foreſts brave her turbid ſkies.
" As now my failing powers your kindneſs feel,
True guard and glory of my country's weal,
Never while life's warm current bathes this heart,
Shall the ſtrong image, now impreſs'd, depart.
And, 'mid the proſperous ſcenes of regal ſtate,
If proſperous ſcenes may yet on Alfred wait,
Still ſhall remembrance cling with ceaſeleſs force
To Splendour's baſis, and to Plenty's ſource.—
Yes! England's future laws ſhall careful ſhield
The manly ſwains who cultivate her field,
Though Commerce ſpread her boundleſs ocean wide
O ſacred be the ſprings that feed her tide,
Sacred the ſteady rock on which ſhe ſtands
And views her empire ſtretch'd o'er diſtant lands;
An empire built on Agriculture's race,
Firm as the rocky mountain's ſolid baſe,

But, fed by waves from Luxury that flow
Looſe as the vapoury clouds that ſhade its brow."
As thus deep wrapt in wandering Francy's dreams
Victim of inward woe the monarch ſeems,
Oft gazing, paſſion-ſtung, with liſtleſs ſoul,
On untouch'd viands, and the untaſted bowl;
With hoſpitable zeal the ruſtic pair
By friendly converſe, tried to ſoothe his care—
Deeming his breaſt by private ſorrow wrung,
On public woes their tale inceſſant hung,
And to his wounded ear their words relate
What new-born woes on wretched Albion wait.—
How horde ſucceeding horde in countleſs band,
Spread deſolation o'er the ruin'd land,
Swept o'er the cultured plains in ſanguine flood,
And mark'd their courſe by carnage, and by blood.
His hours, employ'd in conſtant tales of woe,
Nor beam of hope, nor ſmile of ſolace know;
Still heaves his boſom with the heart-felt ſigh,
Still patriot ſorrow dims the monarch's eye.
Day after day fleets on in cheerleſs mood,
While as the ſwain his ſylvan toil purſued,
Sad o'er the hearth the penſive hero hung,
Fix'd his unweening eye and mute his tongue,
Deeply intent on ſcenes of preſent woe,
Or planning future vengeance on the foe,
The objects round him, like the viewleſs air,
Paſs o'er his mind, nor leave an image there;
Hence oft with flippant tongue, the buſy dame
The reckleſs ſtranger's apathy would blame,
Who, careleſs, let the flame thoſe viands waſte
His ready hunger ne'er refuſed to taſte.
Ah! little deeming that her penſive gueſt
High majeſty, and higher worth, poſſeſſed;
Or that her voice preſumptuous dared to chide
Alfred, her country's ſovereign, and its pride." P. 58.

We think the Third Book ſuperior in animation and dignity to the reſt. The ſubject, indeed, affords more food for poetic genius, being principally occupied in the deſcription of the bards, and their prophecy of the future fortunes of Alfred and his poſterity. It would be great injuſtice to Mr. Pye not to give a ſpecimen of the powers which are here diſplayed.

" The tempeſt's voice that uſher'd in the day,
In diſtant murmurs faintly dies away,
The ſcreaming birds their boding carol ceaſe,
And even the torrent's roar ſeems huſh'd in peace.
While, from the rock's deep boſom, notes ſo ſweet,
Of ſuch enchanting ſtrain, the hero greet,

Entranced

Entranced he ſtands, the lay-divine to hear,
And all Elyſium opens on his ear.
The dulcet numbers ceas'd, with awe-ſtruck breaſt
Alfred the genius of the place addreſs'd:
"Whoe'er thou art, whether of mortal line,
Bleſs'd with celeſtial gifts, and ſong divine,
Or ſome attendant of the angelic hoſt,
The holy guardian of this favour'd coaſt,
Before whoſe voice obedient tempeſts fly,
Whoſe lays melodious calm the troubled ſky,
To me propitious be thy pow'rs inclin'd,
To me moſt loſt, moſt wretched, of mankind."
A hollow murmur check'd him as he ſpoke,
And from the rock, a voice tremendous broke—
"O, King of England! not to man is giv'n
To fathom or arraign the will of Heav'n!
Oft in the bright ſerene of proſperous days,
Unſeen the Demon of Deſtruction plays;
Oft thro' Misfortune's drear and bleak abode,
To power and greatneſs lies the rugged road,
'Tis man's to bow beneath the chaſtening rod,
Virtue's true meed lies in the hand of God."
With ſudden horror rock'd the trembling ground,
And diſtant thunder ſhook the vaſt profound;
When, from the cave, a venerable form
Stalk'd forth, announc'd by the preluding ſtorm.
About his limbs a ſnowy garment roll'd,
Floats to the wind in many an ample fold;
His brow ſerene a rich tiara bound,
And looſe his ſilver treſſes ſtream'd around;
In his right hand a golden harp declar'd
The ſacred function of the Druid bard.
Soon as the royal chief the viſion ſaw,
To earth he bent with reverential awe.
"Riſe, ſon of regal dignity," he ſaid,
"Nor bow to human duſt thy laurel'd head!
Mortal like thee I draw precarious breath,
Subject to pain, to ſorrow, and to death;
'Tis thine o'er mighty nations to preſide,
Command their armies, and their councils guide;
'Tis mine to look beyond Time's paſſing date,
And read the page obſcure of future fate,
Strike with bold hand, the free prophetic lyre,
And wake to diſtant years the warbling wire:
Our powers alike, by power ſupreme, are given,
Each but the feeble miniſter of heaven.
'Mid fam'd Cornubia's rocks waſh'd by the main,
Oft have I liſten'd to the myſtic ſtrain,
What time on old Bellerium's topmoſt height
Aerial viſions ſwam before my ſight,

And lay divine, by voice immortal, ſung
In heavenly cadence o'er my ſenſes hung.
Nor is to me unknown the ſacred lore
Of Mona's Druid caves, and Arvon's ſhore.
Even now I feel the enthuſiaſt flame ariſe,
And unborn ages burſt upon my eyes;
Viſions of diſtant times before me roll,
And all the Godhead ruſhes on my ſoul."
His eye-balls as he ſpoke with rapture glow'd,
His ſnowy robes in ampler volume flow'd,
The radiant fillets that his temples bind,
Burſt:—looſer float his treſſes to the wind;
His form expands, he moves with firmer tread,
And lambent glories play around his head:
With rapid hand he ſtrikes the ſacred lyre,
To ſtrains of rapture wakes the thrilling wire,
And, to the ſound reſponſive pours along
The fervid energy of myſtic ſong." P. 83.

With the concluſion of this dignified part of the compoſition we ſhall cloſe our ſpecimens.

" And ſee, by fair Auguſta's ſtately towers,
Pellucid Thames his placid current pours,
Wafting, thro' many a league of Albion's reign,
The golden produce of her happy plain,
Or, bearing on his refluent tide, the ſail
Of Commerce, ſwell'd by fortune's favouring gale.
To pile her marts contending nations meet,
The world's productions offering at her feet.
Whate'er of wealth in various regions ſhines,
Glows in their ſands, or lurks within their mines;
Whate'er from bounteous Nature men receive,
Whatever toil can rear, or art can weave,
Her princely merchants bear from every zone,
Their country's ſtores increaſing with their own.
And as the dewy moiſture Sol exhales,
With beam refulgent, from irriguous vales,
Deſcends in favouring ſhowers of genial rain,
To fertilize the hill and arid plain,
So wealth, collected by the merchant's hand,
Spreads wide in general plenty, o'er the land.
" Phantoms of glory, ſtay! They fleet along,
Born on the ſtreams of viſionary ſong.
Hear ye yon ſhout?—The ſhout of triumph hear!
It ſwells, it burſts, on my enraptur'd ear.——
The hour of vengeance comes! On yon bleak height
The vulture claps his wings, and ſnuffs the fight.
See o'er the ranks the crimſon banners float!
Hark the loud clarion ſwells the brazen note!
Denmark's dark raven, cowering, hears the ſound;
His flagging pinion droops, and ſweeps the ground."

He

He ceaſed.—Amaz'd the wondering warrior ſtood,
The myſtic numbers chill'd his curdling blood.
Pale ſinks the ſeer in ſpeechleſs exſtaſy,
Wild heaves his breaſt, and haggard rolls his eye:
Till ſeizing with his hand the ſacred lyre
His ſkilful fingers ſwept again the wire,
Soft o'er his mind the ſtream of muſic ſtole,
And ſooth'd the labouring rapture of his ſoul." P. 104.

The Fourth Book purſues the tale, and pleaſingly exhibits an account of Alfred's various difficulties, and his ſagacity and reſolution in overcoming them. The fortunate junction of Donald and his Scottiſh troops with Alfred, &c. properly concludes this Books.

The Fifth Book commences very agreeably with the intereſting epiſode of Ceolph and Emmeline, and concludes with a ſpirited account of the famous battle of Eddington, the ſubject of ſo many intellectual exertions both in proſe and verſe.

The Sixth Book repreſents the conſequences of the battle of Eddington, the circumſtances attending the ſurrender and converſion of Guthrim, Prince of the Danes. A ſecond prophecy is introduced, telling the future fortunes of Alfred, and of the Britiſh Iſlands. The work concludes with the repreſentation of the homage of the united army to Alfred. The prophecy in this Book is conducted with great ingenuity, and the alluſions to the trial by jury, and the union with Ireland, are remarkably well contrived and introduced.

We have no ſcruple in ſaying, that the preſent is by far the firſt of all Mr. Pye's compoſitions, and that to which he may principally truſt for the duration of his fame. Where bold, warm, and energetic language, ſeems indiſpenſably neceſſary to the ſubject, the reader will never be diſappointed; and in thoſe not leſs intereſting or pleaſing ſcenes, which exhibit retired and ſocial life, it is impoſſible not to be delighted with the eaſe, elegance, and harmony, of the verſe. That ſome defective, and ſome feeble lines ſhould ſteal into ſo elaborate a work, as it might naturally be expected, may be eaſily forgiven; but of theſe ſo few examples occur, that it would be invidious to deſignate them. It is, on the whole, a compoſition ſo creditable to the author, and ſo agreeable to the critic, that we moſt reluctantly turn from it to encounter a hoſt of dulneſs which obtrudes itſelf on the eye, and oppreſſes every ſenſe by its ſomniferous operation.

It is proper to add of this publication, that it is one of the moſt elegant and beautiful ſpecimens of typography that ever were produced from the Engliſh preſs.

ART. IV. *An Epitome of Military Events, or Hiſtorical Eſſay upon the preſent War, No. I. to VI. Vol. I. containing the moſt remarkable Occurrences from the Reſumption of Hoſtilities in the Month of March to the End of September*, 1799. *Illuſtrated by Maps and Plans. Tranſlated from the French.* 8vo. 372 pp. 10s. 6d. Egerton. 1800.

"IN compliance with the reiterated inſtances of ſeveral officers of the Britiſh army," ſays an Advertiſement prefixed, "T. Egerton has been induced to publiſh the following tranſlation of the *Precis des Evenemens Militaires*, which he ventures to ſay will be found to poſſeſs a degree of correctneſs and fidelity, worthy of the much-admired original. This *Epitome of Military Events* is generally allowed to be the moſt intereſting and impartial account that has hitherto appeared, of the movements of all the armies on the continent."

In this allowance we concur with the generality, only making a deduction from the impartiality aſcribed. No native of France perhaps, no republican of France certainly, *could* or *would* deſcribe the victories of Britain, ſo illuſtrious as they are in the preſent war, illuſtrious beyond all the ſplendour of all our former wars, with a particularity adequate to their importance in our eſtimation, or in their own nature. The writers (for they ſpeak of themſelves in the plural number) have accordingly thrown theſe actions into ſhade, by the ſhortneſs of their deſcriptions. They allow the glory of the deeds, but they dwell not upon the circumſtances of them. They dwell upon the battles of the armies, but they paſs haſtily over the engagements of the fleets. This may, in ſome meaſure, be attributed to their inexperience of engagements at ſea, and to their knowledge of battles upon land. Yet it is much more aſcribable, we believe, to *the partiality of patriotiſm*, which in a republican's, or even in a royaliſt's boſom, loves not to expatiate upon the triumphs of Briton. Of the principle, and of the feeling, we have a ſtriking inſtance, in their account of that battle of Aboukir, at the thought of which every Britiſh heart beats for joy. The French Admiral, they ſay,

"moored his ſquadron in an unfavourable poſition, where the hazards and dangers of an engagement were not counterpoiſed by the advantages of a longer ſtay in theſe ſeas, on account of the ſucceſs of the expedition."

This repreſentation indeed is not *accurate in itſelf*, as it imputes the ſtay of the French fleet on the coaſt of Egypt to the will of the Admiral, when it was produced by the command of the General. "The general opinion was," ſays Jaubert,

in a *private* letter to the Miniſter of Marine, "that as ſoon as the debarkation was effected, we ſhould have ſailed for Corfou; *the General has decided it otherwiſe**." So plainly was the ſtay of the fleet produced by the orders of Bonaparte! Yet Bonaparte had the effrontery afterwards, in order to throw the blame upon the Admiral, to aſſert he himſelf had ordered him either to enter the port of Alexandria, or depart for Corfou†! He knew not then of the intercepted letter, and theſe authors know as little of it, adopting the falſehood of Bonaparte for a truth, and uniting with him in the unjuſt cenſure of the Admiral. We thus come, by accident, at once to notice the inaccuracy of theſe authors in *ſome* points, and the inclination of their prejudices towards the ſide of Bonaparte. We now come to ſee in a full point of view the reaſons which induced them to move,

Smooth-ſliding without ſtep,

over the energetic efforts of our navy. Partial from patriotiſm, prejudiced from republicaniſm, they reſt with pleaſure only on the ſucceſſes of the republicans, and the ſtruggles of the continent againſt them. "*This fault*," add the authors, in the ſame ſtrain of ſpeaking inaccurately upon points, that have long been illuſtrated by authentic vouchers, and of derogating from the well-earned fame of our navy, "put the bold and ſkilful Admiral Nelſon *in poſſeſſion* of the remainder of the French fleet in the Mediterranean, *in the only ſituation where*, in ſpite of the moſt obſtinate reſiſtance, *its entire deſtruction was poſſible*." This is as inaccurate as the preceding. "I arrived there in the afternoon," the Admiral himſelf aſſures us ſome days before the battle, "and formed a line of battle at two thirds of a cable's length, the headmoſt veſſel being *as cloſe as poſſible to a ſhoal to the north-weſt* of us, and the reſt of the fleet forming a kind of curve along the line of deep water, *ſo as not to be turned by any means in the ſouth-weſt*‡." This is the Admiral's own account. How then can theſe mere *landlubbers* pretend to contradict, without attempting to refute it? So ſtrongly tinctured with prejudice in favour of republican France are theſe authors; and they proceed in the ſame ſtrain of inaccuracy, and in the ſame ſtyle of prejudice: "it was even doubtful whether he would, or indeed whether he ought to, have ventured to attack it in the open ſea." That he

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* Copies of Original Letters from the Army of General Bonaparte in Egypt, Part I. p. 33.

† P. 34.

‡ Original Letters, p. 42.

would is plain, from a teſtimony, to which theſe writers appear not to have once attended, perhaps becauſe it was Britiſh; and that therefore he *ought*, even they will not preſume to doubt. Nelſon "had the happineſs to find," we are told, by the beſt of witneſſes, on the junction of Troubridge's ſquadron with his ſhips, "that to the Captains of his ſquadron *he had no neceſſity* to give directions, *for, being in conſtant readineſs for battle*, on this point their zeal anticipated his utmoſt wiſhes, *for the decks of all the ſhips were kept perfectly clear night and day*, and *every man was ready to ſtart to his poſt at a moment's notice*; it was a great ſatisfaction to him likewiſe to perceive, that the men of all the ſhips *were daily exerciſed at the great guns and ſmall arms*, and that *every thing was in the beſt ſtate of preparation for actual ſervice**."—"It had been his practice during the whole of the cruize," adds our witneſs on Nelſon's arrival at Alexandria, and finding the French fleet near it, "whenever the weather and circumſtances would permit, to have his captains on board" his own ſhip "the Vanguard; where he would *fully develope to them his own ideas of the different and beſt modes of attack*, and *ſuch plans as he propoſed to execute upon falling in with the enemy*, whatever *their poſition or ſituation might be*, by day or by night. *There was no poſſible poſition in which they could be found*, that he *did not take into his calculation*, and *for the moſt advantageous attack of which* he had not *digeſted* and *arranged* the *beſt poſſible diſpoſition* of the force which he commanded†." Theſe teſtimonies would be ſufficient of themſelves, to prove the temerity of the French authors, in their ſtatements and in their ſurmiſes on this point. But, to prove our charge ſtill more, we ſubjoin a third extract from this authentic evidence. "Had he fallen in with the French fleet *at ſea*," it tells us, "that he might make *the beſt impreſſion* upon *any* part of it, which ſhould appear *the moſt vulnerable* or *the moſt eligible for attack*, he divided his force into three ſubſquadrons; *two* of theſe *were to attack* the *ſhips of war*, while the *third* was to *purſue the tranſports*, and to *ſink and deſtroy as many as it could*‡." Yet, in ſpite of all this overpowering evidence, in pure ignorance of it, probably, theſe republican writers raiſe a doubt whether Nelſon *would* or *ſhould* have attacked the French fleet in any poſition but that in which he found it, and in which, as the ſtrongeſt poſition poſſible, its own Admiral had poſted it.

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* Authentic Narrative, by an officer of rank in the ſquadron [Captain Berry] edit. third, p. 9–10.

† P. 17. ‡ P. 18—19.

We

We make not theſe remarks with any invidious deſire of detracting from the general merit of the work before us. We came involuntarily to the point; but we owed to the public, and to ourſelves, the juſtice of marking that mode of ſhading off the luſtre of Britiſh glory, which we could not but ſee at once in this account of the battle of the Nile, by a brevity in deſcribing it; and of tracing thoſe inaccuracies in the account, which are all calculated for the ſame purpoſe. This juſtice was alſo the more requiſite, as the publiſher had ſo highly applauded the original, upon the authority of ſeveral of our own officers, and as our own opinions will be found hereafter ſo fully coincident with his or theirs, in other reſpects. Yet we have ſaid enough, we truſt, to ſhow a partiality, and an inaccuracy, which had been overlooked by them, and to ſhow with what caution even the beſt narratives of republican writers muſt be received, when the triumphs of Britain are entruſted to their reluctant pens.

Having ſaid ſo much on this preliminary point, we go on to acknowledge, in general, that we think it extraordinary, in a work written ſo near to the very actions deſcribed, as three weeks*, that ſo much of concentrated good ſenſe, ſo much of combined notices concerning paſt or preſent actions, ſo much of military ſagacity, antiquarian knowledge, and political diſcernment, ſhould be united. At this conſtellation of excellent qualities, we are equally delighted and aſtoniſhed; and our readers, we doubt not, will ſhare thoſe ſenſations with us, when we preſent to them a few paſſages from the work. We ſhall indeed produce the more, to counteract, in a proper degree, that proſcription, which we have found ourſelves compelled to fix, with the hand of juſtice, upon one particular part.

'" It will one day be matter of aſtoniſhment," the authors remark, concerning the war in Switzerland, and among the Griſons, in May, 1799, " that ſo many barriers, which were reckoned inſurmountable obſtacles to the march of an army, ſhould have been forced; and that the obſtinate and very active defence of a number of troops, which certainly would in former times have been judged more than ſufficient to bar all the paſſes, ſhould not longer have checked the attacking army. It will be aſked, if more ardour was diſplayed in the attack, or leſs vigour and firmneſs in the defence? If new arms, or new means, were employed in the battles? If the connexion and application of the manœuvres of the different arms, [with and] to the different

* " We ſhall never ſuffer," the authors promiſe in their ſecond monthly number, " an interval of more than three weeks to elapſe from the ſtate of theſe events, to that of the publication of our Epitome."

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nature of the country and of the ground, were changed?—Undoubtedly not; and very probably the art of war had already attained under all theſe points of view its higheſt perfection. Frederick II. the Cæſar of our age, had left few diſcoveries to be made, few branches to be perfectionated*, in modern tactics.

"But in proportion as general combinations have been extended and planned, it has been the ſame with the ſtrongeſt poſts, and places deemed impregnable in mountainous countries, as with places [and poſts] in level countries†. If theſe poſts do not ſecure the poſſeſſion of the loftieſt and ſteepeſt height; if they are not the key of the ſmalleſt intervals in the chain, that of the firſt paſſages opened by the waters, which increaſing by degrees, and becoming level like their ſtream, lead to the entrance of the fertile and extenſive vallies; they have merely a relative and momentary importance.

"Since travellers have made tracks acroſs abyſſes of ice, ſince theſe new regions have been explored, the art of war, which engroſſes all the tributes of the ſciences, which graſps at all the progreſſes of human underſtanding, has cauſed new riſks to be run, occaſioned new experiments to be made; and military talents and boldneſs muſt have excited men to efforts, not leſs ſtrenuous" *even more ſtrenuous*, as the argument requires the language to have been, "than thoſe of curioſity and natural ſcience.

"When means have been found to climb the frozen ſummits of the Alps, and to forward bodies of troops and artillery along paths hardly trodden by the moſt intrepid ſportſmen; the great plans of attack and defence are ſoon executed, as nature had herſelf linked the middling acclivities and heights to the chains and principal maſſes. Her ſecrets have been diſcovered; her immutable order has been recogniſed, even in her moſt whimſical caprices; to the chaos of the Great Alps a clue has been found; topographical maps have been *perfectionated*, the moſt minute details collected, and localities delineated with an art and preciſion heretofore unknown. This exact knowledge of the grand conformation, of the *oſteology* of the mountains (if we may be allowed that expreſſion) has inſpired generals and ſtaff-officers with ideas more grand and more ſimple. Roads of communication more beaten have been examined with greater attention. In ſhort, a new topographical ſcale has been eſtabliſhed, for warlike operations in mountainous countries; and generals have ventured to detach corps‡ to greater diſtances, in order to ſecure a commanding poſition, which made them maſters of large ſpaces of ground.

"Theſe advantages are ſo well profited by in the war of Switzerland, that the blows ſtruck upon the frontier of the Tyrol and the Griſons, at thirty and forty leagues from the central poſition of the armies,

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* A word that frequently occurs in the tranſlation, but has too Frenchified an air to be conſidered as actually Britiſh.

† The two words between brackets we have ſupplied, as wanting to the fullneſs of the ſentence.

‡ This *plural* uſe of the word is not perhaps yet licenſed, but is very neceſſary.

were

were inſtantly felt; obliged movements to be made, and cauſed plans to be changed, as if thoſe diviſions, ſeparated by ſo many difficulties, by ſo many natural intrenchments, had been contiguous to the main body of the army from which they were detached.

"No obſtacle being able to impede the general movement, at leaſt for a ſufficient length of time to oblige the parties ſuperior in force to depart from that ſimple plan of operations, which might be called the natural and topographical plan; and which conſiſts in outflanking the wings of an army, and turning and deſtroying his ſupports, without regard to his particular poſition; the conſequence has been, that in carrying on a mountain war, the ſtrength of poſts and poſitions is no longer ſo great a counterpoiſe as formerly, to the ſuperiority of numbers."

Theſe remarks ſhow their own novelty and juſtneſs. They mark the war of the ſpring of 1799, by the characters peculiar to it. But to theſe the authors have added a long diſſertation, in the form of a note appended, on the original formation, and the preſent improvements, of the horſe-artillery. We wiſhed to have laid a part of this before our readers, as equally juſt and novel with the remarks themſelves. They have alſo added a ſecond, in the ſame form, upon "one of the branches of mathematical ſcience, the improvement of which has moſt contributed to the improvement of the military art,—Topography, which in its turn has been greatly improved by the ſtudy of the art of war." This is equally replete with notices as novel to us, as they are apparently juſt in themſelves; and we equally wiſhed to preſent our readers with a ſpecimen of this. But we find ourſelves compelled by the multiplicity of obſervations, original and convincing, to paſs them both over, and to puſh forward for another extract, that will unite with the preceding.

"If any doubt could ſtill be entertained," the authors inform us, concerning the military events of May and June, 1799, "of the changes which have recently taken place in the art of war, or (to ſpeak more correctly) of the developement of the means, carried far beyond the limits in which they appeared to be circumſcribed, and which we have particularly pointed out in the *mountain* war; the moſt convincing proofs will be found of theſe changes, in ſurveying this ſecond period of the campaign. Such of our readers as are more particularly intereſted in the hiſtory of the art, will not complain of our repeating this obſervation, and of our having juſtified it by the example of numerous battles, fought in Switzerland between the army of the Archduke and that of General Maſſena. The ſtudy of ancient wars, and of the campaigns of the moſt celebrated generals, and experience in the wars of this century anterior to the preſent, will no doubt afford this claſs of our readers examples, of engagements equally important, of battles equally bloody, and of manœuvres equally ſkilful; but they will

will agree with us, that never were ſo many and ſuch important objects undertaken at the ſame time. It is even becauſe there is no longer any proportion between the extent of the ſcene, and the number of actors and engines of war by which it is occupied; that, in order to be ſufficient to fill it, the armies are in a manner forced to multiply themſelves by their movements: hence it is, that the actions are more frequent. When once an army is in motion, either to diſlodge an enemy's army from a poſition, or to take up one which may ſecure it from a general attack, at whatever point the action may commence, it rapidly ſpreads through all the ſeat of war. This was the caſe in Switzerland, where from the 14th of May, the day of the attack of Lucienſteig in the Griſons, till the 6th of June, the two armies were continually engaged from the ſummits of the Glaciers, to the very conflux of the rivers which there take their ſource, and from the three lines of defence we have before mentioned; the Limmat, the Reaſs, and the Aar, which receives them below Baden, and carries to the Rhine this triple tribute of all the waters that flow from the Upper Alps towards the north, leaving to the Rhone only thoſe of the double chain of mountains of the Valais.

"In this immenſe ſpace, the ſame battle laſted nineteen days; for, if we muſt ſtill apply this denomination, it can only be to thoſe actions [which are] ſo connected with each other, that the ſtrongeſt poſitions are nothing but the mere poſts or points of a general line, which the mind alone can comprehend, and which are all at once both attacked and defended. The marches, always forced, are continual manœuvres and battles, and the manœuvres in preſence of the enemy ſimultaneous ſhocks and charges. The duration of theſe terrible battles is no longer reckoned by the number of hours, but by the number of days.

"What can however be the conſequences of this kind of war, of this conſumption of men and money, of this rapid deſtruction of the moſt powerful armies? What ſudden changes of fortune, and even of exiſtence, which countries experience, can bring about enterpriſes ſo vaſt and ſo hazardous?—Theſe are important queſtions, which we ſhall more than once have occaſion to inveſtigate.

"In the recent operations in Italy, we might have found ſuch examples; and have likewiſe ſhewn, that habit has ſo familiarized us to this uninterrupted ſucceſſion of engagements, to theſe ſudden ſtrokes, that a few days ſpent in reconnoitering, during which however ſtrong advanced guards and entire diviſions were conſtantly fighting bloody battles, were almoſt conſidered as a ceſſation of movement between the armies of Italy."

Theſe obſervations appear to be at once judicious and deep, drawn from the very quality of the war, and marking ſtrongly the military ſagacity of the writers. To ſuch general obſervations alone muſt we confine our extracts, as we cannot enter with the authors into the details of battles. But we ſhall now turn to a a general obſervation, that ſhows theſe authors in a new light, and intereſts our feelings in a new manner. It is a long note to the chapter of theſe events.

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"The victories of the republic," they remark concerning the French invaſion of Switzerland; "its exiſtence recognized by the principal powers; the peace of Campo Formio; a congreſs compoſed of all the deputies of the ſtates of Europe, with the exception of thoſe which the fiat of the Directory had excluded; the power which the Directory had recently aſſumed in France, and that which it was ſuppoſed to poſſeſs of ruling the deſtinies of the continent; all theſe advantages had occaſioned paſt crimes to be forgotten, or had placed them in the rank of thoſe uſurpations, which are conſidered as legitimate, on account of their magnitude and their ſucceſs.

"It is in theſe circumſtances, it is when every thing bowed down before the Directory, when the moſt celebrated of their generals, Buonaparte, was in paſſing through Helvetia paid more honours, and received them with leſs reſpect, than Cæſar or Pompey could have done in Spain, in Egypt, or in Gaul; it is at this moment when, like thoſe illuſtrious Romans, the Directory could diſtribute kingdoms and give peace to the world; that the particular paſſion of one of its members, and the deſire of maintaining, at the expence of foreign countries, the armies, whoſe tranquillity and communication with the citizens were dreaded, decided the invaſion of a territory conſidered as hoſpitable, as the laſt aſylum of ancient manners, as the favourite abode of liberty; and conſigned to all the horrors of war a people, whoſe frankneſs, bravery, and honeſty, had at all times been univerſally celebrated.

"——— The ſlight reproaches that might perhaps be made againſt a few of the inhabitants of Switzerland, have not leſſened the indignation which all Europe has felt, when under the moſt ridiculous pretences, in the name of liberty whoſe aſylum they were about to violate, under the deceitful maſk of protection, the French Directory diſſolved the ties of *the perpetual alliance*, overthrew governments extolled for their wiſdom, which was confirmed by the comfort and happineſs of all the citizens; when their [the Directory's] odious proconſuls have been ſeen ſeizing upon the public treaſures, invading private property, carrying fire and ſword into the peaceful retreat of a nation of ſhepherds, and burying under rubbiſh equality and democracy with the only men, who have really profeſſed the religion, of which they called themſelves the apoſtles.

"All Europe aſked, Where then will the French Revolution ſtop? What country will hold out leſs temptation to cupidity than theſe agreſtical* regions, which, notwithſtanding the induſtrious activity of the inhabitants, cannot always ſucceed in providing for their ſubſiſtence? What government can expect favour from the Directory, if it transforms into a field of battle that very field, where *all* the inhabitants of a canton aſſembled under the canopy of Heaven, like the Athenians or the Spartans, to deliberate upon their common intereſts? What fidelity more tried than that, which had allowed of a whole frontier being left defenceleſs, or rather which cauſed it to be conſider-

* A word yet unlicenſed, but wanted.

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ed as better defended by the unalterable neutrality of its ſteadfaſt allies, than it could poſſibly have been by a triple line of fortreſſes?

" We therefore repeat the obſervation: it is from the date of this epoch, it is from the date of the day of the invaſion of Switzerland, that the illuſion of the hopes, which the Directory has contrived to propagate, has entirely vaniſhed; it has increaſed its territorial domination, but it has loſt its moral influence, which had facilitated ſo many of its conqueſts. Like Achilles, France had only one ſpot in which ſhe was vulnerable; and ſhe has preſented it without defence, to the blows of her enemies.

" We ſhall conclude this article by expreſſing our wiſhes, that this intereſting and unfortunate country, formerly the aſylum of peace, where men, tired of the buſtle and tumult of great cities, went in ſearch of the enjoyments of nature; where the ſick man hoped to recover his health, and the perſecuted man to find a refuge; where the traveller, when he had only the intention of croſſing it, ſettled himſelf for life; that this country, always neutral, and heretofore in a manner held ſacred, at this day become the theatre of carnage, fire, famine, and all the ſcourges of war, may be reſpected by the conqueror, and reſtored in its integral ſtate to its ancient and happy independence."

Theſe reflections do honour to the heart as well as head of this republican author; for author he plainly is, though he affects (like a reviewer) to ſpeak of himſelf as a plurality. He is plainly too a Swiſs by birth or by education; a Swiſs adopting the republicaniſm of France, without its extravagancies, without its cruelties; yet ſo warmly adopting the prejudices of France with its republicaniſm, as to detract from the glory of Britain at times by petty artifices, and even to conceal the infamy of France at times by petty ſuppreſſions. *Before* the invaſion of Switzerland had Egypt been invaded by the French, though Egypt was equally an ally with Switzerland, and was equally repoſing in ſecurity under the protection of treaties. But againſt this invaſion, ſo diſhoneſt, ſo perfidious, the author never inveighs; ſaying only, that it " broke the connexion which, notwithſtanding the hoſtilities committed againſt the Beys of Egypt," (this Frenchified writer ſubſtituting the Beys for the Ottoman Porte, the ſubordinates for the ſuperiors, and the deputies for the Sovereign) " the French government flattered itſelf that it had preſerved." P. 78, 79. So little were his principles at variance with the perfidy of France on that invaſion! But, on the invaſion of Switzerland, his patriotiſm or his predilection burſt at once the flimſy manacles of republicaniſm, and his probity ſtands forth in martial array againſt the French. *Then* we hear of what we heard not before, of " the indignation which all Europe has felt" at the invaſion of a country in full amity with the invaders, an invaſion made " under the moſt ridiculous pretences," and " under the deceitful

ceitful maſk of protection." *Then* we find the Directory's "odious proconſuls—ſeizing upon the public treaſures, invading private property, carrying fire and ſword into the peaceful retreat of a nation of ſhepherds." And *then* "all Europe aſked, where will the French revolution ſtop? What country will hold out leſs temptation to cupidity? What government can expect favour from the Directory?" Yet all this had been done and ſaid by all Europe, and all the world *before*, at the invaſion of Egypt; but has not been noticed in the ſlighteſt hint, by this "impartial" author. He even now dates the extinction of "the moral influence" of France, from the *poſterior* invaſion, and not the prior. At the *poſterior*, he ſays, "France had only *one* ſpot in which ſhe was vulnerable;" and at the *poſterior*, he adds, "ſhe preſented it without defence to the blows of her enemies." All this proves the author to be a Swiſs by attachment, a republican by prejudice, and warped in his honeſty by both relations. He accordingly concludes with a wiſh, that ſpeaks all his attachment in the livelieſt tone, that every heart muſt feel, and that wants only *extenſion* to be completely juſt.

We ſhould here cloſe our account of this work, if we were not detained by a diſſertation in the ſhape of a note at the end of the whole, that goes more to the heart of a Briton than all the preceding.

"It is a very remarkable circumſtance," we are told, "that a meeting ſhould take place upon a point of the coaſt of Syria between two men ſo extraordinary as Buonaparte and Sir Sidney Smith, the one engaged in the attack and the other in the defence of St. Jean d'Acre, the ancient Ptolemais, a city celebrated in the middle age by a ſiege which it ſuſtained againſt the cruſaders of France and England.

"The intereſt which poſterity, much more indeed than their cotemporaries, will no doubt feel to learn the moſt minute particulars, relative to the men who have played the firſt parts in the terrible tragedy of the revolution, has induced us to think that it would not perhaps be unacceptable to here find * a writing, ſingular on account of its originality. It is a letter, or rather a ſort of addreſs (in French) from Sir Sidney Smith to Buonaparte, written in pencil upon the walls of the Temple, where this celebrated Engliſhman had been confined, after having been taken priſoner in the road of Havre. The authenticity of this letter is the leſs to be queſtioned, as four priſoners, who were ſhut up in the apartment which Sir Sidney Smith had previouſly occupied in the Temple, made the jailor the very moment they entered atteſt, that this writing exiſted previous to their arrival.

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* A poſition of words that occurs ſeveral times, but is certainly improper.

"Com-

" Commodore Sir Sidney Smith to General Buonaparte, dated from the Temple at Paris, October the 26th, 1796.

" The wheel of fortune makes ſtrange revolutions; but, to deſerve the name of revolution, muſt the turn of the wheel be complete. You are at this day as high as you can be; well! I envy not your happineſs, becauſe I have a ſtill greater happineſs, that of being as low in the career of ambition as it is poſſible to deſcend; ſo that, if this capricious dame again turn her wheel ever ſo little, I muſt go up; and, for the ſame reaſon, you muſt go down.

" I make not this remark to ſhock you, but really in order to afford you the ſame conſolation that I experience, when you ſhall have fallen into the ſame ſituation in which I am. Yes! in which I am; you will inhabit this very priſon! Why not as well as I? Before I was confined here, I did not think of being here more than you do now. In a war of party, it is a crime in the eyes of his opponents for a man to do his duty well; you do yours well at preſent, and conſequently you whet againſt you the poniards of your enemies. You will anſwer me;

" I view undaunted their conſpiring hate,
The people chooſe me, and their voice is fate."

" Ay, ay, the people's love is great, no doubt;
Sleep quietly, and ſoon you'll find it out.
Oh! what a kind indulgent lord is yours!
What pangs he feels for all his ſlave endures!
If not to-day, before ſix moons at moſt,
You'll find how much he loves you, to your coſt.
Truſt not the crowd (an ancient author cries);
Whoe'er by public favour hopes to riſe,
Deſerted by a weak inconſtant friend,
Shall meet remorſe and an untimely end."

" Indeed I have no occaſion to prove to you that you will come here, ſince you muſt be already here to read theſe lines; you will no doubt have this apartment, becauſe the keeper of the priſon is a worthy man, and he will certainly give you the beſt, as he has done me."

" Notwithſtanding the innumerable inſtances of that inconſtancy with which Fortune is ſo juſtly reproached, perhaps there are few that have exhibited in ſo ſhort a ſpace of time, a change ſo rapid in the ſituation of two men equally covetous of fame; one of whom had already attained the ſummit of proſperity, and the other, who was panting to follow his footſteps, was confined in a priſon, which ſeemed likely to ſtop for a long time the career of his daring enterpriſes.

" Who, at the time when the letter which we have juſt tranſcribed was written, could have predicted that the conqueror of Lodi and Arcola would be foiled in the greateſt project, that the boldneſs of his imagination and the firmneſs of his character had ever conceived, by the active oppoſition of a man whom he had left in priſon on his departure from France, and whoſe known intrepidity called for all the vigilance of the government?

" This reflection upon the inſtability of human affairs, has not been our only inducement for inſerting this addreſs of Sir Sidney Smith; which, while it proved that he was acquainted with all the inconſtancy

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of fate, nevertheleſs announced that he was anxious only for the moment when he might again expoſe himſelf to its ſtrokes. We wiſhed at the ſame time to ſeize the opportunity, of making our readers feel the important conſequences, of the ſucceſsful reſiſtance which he oppoſed to Buonaparte in the very city of St. Jean d'Acre, where were formerly arreſted the exploits of that innumerable army, which religion and chivalry had carried acroſs the ſeas.

"The recollection of the events recorded in hiſtory, is never more valuable nor more intereſting, than when after long ages of oblivion ſome remarkable occurrence comes, to again render famous a place already celebrated by great warlike atchievements. Theſe aſſimilations, this ſort of return of the ſame political phenomena, poſſeſs a ſecret charm for thoſe who apply themſelves to the philoſophy of hiſtory."

This anecdote concerning our heroic countryman, Sir Sidney Smith, is the ſecond of the kind that we remember to have ſeen; the other being lines written with a pencil, upon the wainſcot of his priſon-room. Theſe unite with the letter written by him to Pichegru, then at the head of the riſing party againſt the Directory, to ſhow how his mind maintained its activity even amidſt the vacuities of a priſon-life, and effuſed itſelf upon paper, upon plaiſtering, or upon wainſcot. But the ſubject of the laſt effuſion is particularly intereſting to *us*, who have lived to ſee the wheel of fortune "go up" with both the addreſſer and the addreſſed, and Sir Sidney therefore to have been only half a prophet in his predictions concerning them. May he be a whole prophet in the prediction concluding! May

This Cromwell damn'd to everlaſting fame,

for his own ſake, for the ſake of our country, for the ſake of the world, ſoon be deprived of that power which is formidable to every civilized nation, without being beneficial to any!

We here cloſe our account of the preſent publication; recommending it warmly to our readers, for its general judiciouſneſs, general exactneſs, and univerſal ingenuity. As to the tranſlation, having never ſeen the original, we cannot compare the one with the other. But, if the tranſlation has been made by the reſpectable gentleman who has been intimated to us, the public may depend upon the faithfulneſs and propriety of it. We have only noted ſome Galliciſms, and might have noted ſome Scoticiſms, as we ſuppoſe we muſt call a few little irregularities, that the tranſlator has allowed to be transfuſed or incorporated into his language. In all other reſpects his ſtyle is good, accurate, and nervous.

ART.

ART. V. *An Introduction to Harmony. By William Shield.* 4to. 65 pp. Letter-preſs; 60 pp. on engraved Plates, intermixed. 18s. Robinſons. 1800.

WHEN an ingenious muſician, who has been celebrated twenty years for his juſtly popular compoſitions, and who is alſo a conſiderable performer on ſtringed inſtruments, favours the public with his ideas on harmony, the greateſt curioſity is excited to examine his work. If to theſe profeſſional qualities, he unites a diſpoſition ſo amiable, a modeſty ſo extreme, as to deſerve and obtain the warmeſt friendſhip of all who know him; the unavoidable imperfections of a difficult work diminiſh in the eye of criticiſm, and we follow with delight the courſe of ſuch an author, eſteeming him neither a butterfly nor an eagle*, but a bird of ſweeteſt ſong, whoſe notes have often filled the groves with melody. Even in the title-page the character of the author is ſtrongly perceptible. No crouded ſentence confuſes the attention. It is unaffected and natural, like himſelf, and his former productions; while the page is filled up with a beautiful drawing by Smirke, engraved by Heath.

After a ſhort Advertiſement, giving ſatisfactory reaſons for delay of publication, and mentioning (in a note) the announced Introduction to Muſical Compoſition, by Mr. Dittenhoeffer, and the Muſical Dictionary of Dr. Callcott, Mr. Shield begins with the diatonic ſcale, aſcending and deſcending of tones and major ſemitones C,D,E,F, G A B C, which he aſſerts, with great juſtice, to be "*the moſt ſimple*, as well as the *moſt natural*." No deluſive phantom of a *ſcale of nature* is here intruded on the ſtudent's attention, *and this omiſſion alone* ſufficiently determines the claſs of books to which the preſent work belongs, when compared with the antecedent reveries, however ingenious, of Meſſrs. Kollmann and King.

P. 3. The common chord, with a major third and perfect fifth, is explained; and it is obſerved "by adding an eighth above the baſs, to the chord you have the appearance of four parts." The note (A) to this page is curious, and worthy of notice.

"Speculative theoriſts aſſert, that there is no ſuch thing in nature as a ſimple ſound, and, that whenever a muſical ſtring ſweetly vibrates, a nice ear will diſtinguiſh the twelfth and ſeventeeth above the predo-

* See his Advertiſement, p. 1.

minant

minant ſound, harmonizing at one and the ſame time; which three ſounds are the common chord in this poſition.

" And there is a remarkable circumſtance related, in natural hiſtory, of the *triton avis*, a name by which Nieremberg has deſcribed a Weſt-Indian bird, famous for its muſical qualities; it is ſaid to have three diſtinct notes, and to be able to give breath to ſounds of all the three kinds at the ſame time. It is alſo much celebrated for its beauty."

P. 4. The common chord, with a minor third, is here given; and this is one of the few places in which we find ourſelves compelled to differ from this eſtimable author. The major and minor thirds are thus proved by progreſſive ſemitones.

Major third C, C ſharp, D, D ſharp, E,
1 2 3 4 5

Minor third C, C ſharp D, E flat,
1 2 3 4

Now this is an error which has frequently prevailed in explanatory works, and has been very ſeldom noticed; and yet it is as clearly wrong as it would be to aſſert, that the *mileſtone* on the road is the *mile* itſelf, which is really the diſtance between two mileſtones. If, as we have before obſerved (p. 518 of the laſt volume) the major third conſiſts of two tones, then the number of ſemitones contained are four, and not five; and the minor third conſiſts of a tone and a major ſemitone, or of three ſemitones. This page terminates with a ſentence ſomewhat obſcure.

" It is this third which conſtitutes what is called the minor mode, the aſcending ſcale of which is thus written and conſidered to be more the production of art than nature."

If Mr. S. means that the *minor mode* is artificial, we have objected to that doctrine in our laſt volume (p. 519) but if he means that accidentals muſt be introduced to ſharpen the ſeventh, and ſometimes the ſixth, we agree that the *aſcending ſcale* of that mode is more artificial than the deſcending.

P. 6. The forbidden progreſſions of fifths and eighths are very clearly exemplified.

P. 9. The leading note of the key, as the ſharp ſeventh, is given in the minor of A; Mr. S. adds, it is likewiſe called the " ſenſible note"—*by the French*, he ſhould have added.

P. 10. The ſeries of ſixes *(ſixths)* are ingeniouſly derived from the united melodies of the major and minor ſcales deſcending, and the paſſage of harmony derived from a " *link of ſixes*" is well worthy of attention. In the adapted example for the piano forte, the dots point out the conſecutive fifths, which are not to be played.

A con-

A conſiderable degree of imperfection remains in our muſical orthography, which wants ſome ſtrong and able hand to remove. Mr. Shield uſes the word *cliff*; Dr. Burney, more correctly, *clef* (vol. ii, p. 90). The learned Doctor thinks *baſe* more claſſical than *baſs*, although he again differs from our great lexicographer, Johnſon, and writes *muſic* inſtead of *muſick*. Mr. S. is however certainly wrong in *cliff*; more may be ſaid in favour of *baſs*.

P. 12. The diſcord of the minor ſeventh is now introduced, and it is remarkable that its moſt diſtinguiſhing property, "*that of being a minor third above the common chord*," is only mentioned in a note.

P. 13. Mr. Shield here gives ſome examples to illuſtrate this diſcord; which are,

1. A glee for four voices—*by muſic*. P. 14.
2. A Ruſſian air—*I love Matuſhka*. P. 17.

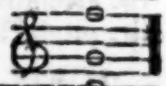
This laſt being in the minor mode, Mr. S. introduces the following obſervation:

"Having copied others, by aſſerting that the minor mode is more the production of art than nature, it will appear ſtrange and contradictory to our readers, when they find the national melodies which are cited in this work, are more frequently in the plaintive minor than the animating major."

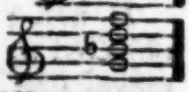
A great many uſeful rules, drawn from this example, fill up four pages.

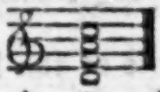
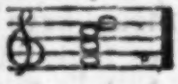
P. 21, continues the Introduction, from p. 13, thus:

"The laſt leſſon ended with the interval of the minor ſeventh, filled up by a major third and perfect fifth, and we will begin this with the ſame ſeventh,



but filled up with a minor third and perfect fifth,



which is a chord leſs agreeable to the ear than the former, more reſtricted in practice, but not leſs eſſential to a regular ſtream of harmony; and in order to adhere to our promiſed ſimplicity as much as poſſible, we will ſelect thoſe notes from the ſcale which require no accidentals* to exhibit it, viz.  and if we operate upon this chord as we did upon the other ſeventh, and place F for the loweſt note, thus,  it then becomes, by the inverſion, a chord

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"* Accidentals are the ſharps, flats, and naturals, that occur in a compoſition which are not marked immediately after the cliff. They are likewiſe called intermediate ſharps, &c."

conſiſting

conſiſting of a major third, perfect fifth, and major ſixth. There are more inverſions of this chord, which we ſhall ſpeak of hereafter; for if the readers have been attentive, and the leſſons ſufficiently explanatory, they will know already as many chords as are neceſſary to accompany the ſcale in the natural key of C; we will, therefore, finiſh this leſſon by uſing the diatonic ſcale as a baſs, and exhibit the accompaniment above it." P. 21.

Accompaniment of the Scale.

Aſcending.

	8	6	8	6	8	6	6	8
	5	4	6	5	5	3	5	5
	3	3	3	3	3		3	3
Baſs.	C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C

Deſcending.

	8	6	6	8	6	6	6	8
	5	3	4	5	4	3	4	5
	3		3	3	2		3	3
Baſs.	C	B	A	G	F	E	D	C

P. 25. The ſtroke through the ſixth (over the deſcending A) is explained to ſignify a ſharp, and a daily practice of the ſcale recommended.

An ingenious and novel method for performers on ſtringed inſtruments is given, to convert harmony into melody, by figuring the firſt note, which regulates the reſt with the thorough baſs ſignature, and then playing the others from that.

P. 26. The common chord of C is called primitive,
The ſixth upon E its firſt derivative,
The fourth and ſixth upon G its ſecond derivative.

This plan is very ſimilar to that of the *Manuel Harmonique* by Dubreuil, Paris, 1767, in which the chords are given for the right hand alone, and the baſs is uniſon to the firſt note (p. 26).* But it is highly probable that Mr. Shield has not formed his plan from any other ſuggeſtions than thoſe of his own genius and practical obſervation.

That this method has been ſucceſsful, we learn from the Advertiſement (p. vii.) of M. Dubreuil†, who, after explaining the

* Dr. Burney mentions this author (vol. iv. p. 627) with great reſpect.

† "Dans la diſpoſition que je lui ai donné, l'exemple ſe trouve partout à cote de la regle; les accords y ſont écrits *en toutes notes ſeparées*, pour être prononcées ſucceſſivement par la voix, ou par ceux des inſtrumens dont on ne peut tirer qu'un ſeul ſon a la fois, et ils ſont déſignés par

the ſeparation of each ſound in the chord, aſſures the public that many perſons in a very ſhort time, by theſe means, were able to underſtand every ſpecies of chords, to perceive their progreſſion, and to prelude agreeably and regularly whatever might be their particular inſtrument.

P. 28. The next leſſon contains an explanation of the diſcord of the ninth; and the following anecdote of Handel (as we imagine) is given in the note (A).

"The importance of which is fully proved, by an obſervation which one of the greateſt muſicians that ever exiſted made to a young man, who had taken frequent opportunities to render him little ſervices, in hopes of being recompenſed by a few leſſons of compoſition; and was bold enough to aſk this admirable maſter to inſtruct him how to ſet parts to ſome melodies that he had invented; but our voluminous compoſer's time was ſo fully, and ſo nobly employed, that he had only leiſure to teach him by advice in theſe words: "Take Corelli's ſcores, and ſtudy them until you fully comprehend every treatment he has given to the ninth; and then, if you have genius, you may begin to compoſe."

With examples of this diſcord the firſt part terminates; and we think it neceſſary to obſerve, that as Mr. Shield really gives his inſtruction in leſſons, it would have been much more to the ſatisfaction and improvement of his readers, had they been regularly divided and numbered. This deficiency, with deference to him, we will endeavour to ſupply.

Leſſon I.	Scale and its Intervals	Page	1
II.	Common Chord with Major Third		3
III.	Common Chord with Minor Third		4
IV.	Forbidden Fifths and Eighths		6
V.	Series of Sixths		10
VI.	Diſcord of the Seventh		12
VII.	Diſcord of Seventh with Minor Third		21
VIII.	Accompaniment of the Scale		22
IX.	Melodies derived from Harmony		26
X.	Diſcord of the Ninth		28

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par les chiffres ordinaires qui en facilitent l'exécution, quand on eſt parvenu à les connoître aſſez pour cela.

"On trouvera auſſi des règles, et les exemples des modulations les plus uſitées et les plus agréeables.

"Comme il y a déjà quelques années que cet ouvrage eſt compoſé, je puis aſſurer que pluſieurs perſonnes a qui je l'ai communiqué, ſont parvenues en fort peu de temps, par ſon moyen, à connoître la compoſition de tous les accords quelqu'ils ſoient a ſentir leur deſtination, enfin à preluder agréablement et réguliérement, et à ſe former une ſorte d'accompagnement à la portée des inſtrumens dont ils avoient l'habitude, de quelque eſpèce qu'ils fuſſent."

 Although

Although we diſlike Mr. S.'s deſultory arrangement, we ſtill think that the buſineſs of dividing a work is ſometimes overdone. There is a middle path, which, while it ſatisfies the mind, gives an eaſy method of returning to any paſſage, whatever be the form in which the work is printed. Such are the diviſions of D'Alembert and Mercadier de Beleſta in French, and Holden's Eſſay and Euler's Algebra in Engliſh, where the ſections or articles are numbered all through the book. This might be adopted by Mr. S. in a future edition, without altering a ſyllable of his text.

The ſecond part begins with the following preliminary Advertiſement.

" Whoever reads thus far with more patience than memory, ſhould ſkim over the firſt part once more before he proceeds to the ſecond, as it is a key to the following harmonical miſcellany, which contains extracts from the compoſitions of thoſe who ſhould have written more, thoſe who ſhould have written leſs, and thoſe who ſhould not have written at all. The critic will perhaps include me in the latter number; but L'Eſtrange ſays, " It is every man's duty to labour in his calling, and not to deſpond for any miſcarriage or diſappointment that were not in his power to prevent."

" Compoſitions are frequently overrated and undervalued by prejudice, therefore it appeared to me to be the moſt liberal plan, to let every muſical illuſtrative example recommend itſelf by its own intrinſic merit, and not by the name of its author. Beauties are often found in ſtrains which are ſeldom heard, and many of the moſt popular compoſitions are not entirely free from defects; but, I ſhould have betrayed a malignant mind, if I had made my ſelection to exalt a friend, to depreſs an enemy, or to diminiſh the happineſs of any contented family, by an attempt to injure its ſupporter in his profeſſional practice." P. 33.

This apology for not inſerting the authors' names to their compoſitions, is more calculated to ſhow the goodneſs of the writer's diſpoſition, than the ſoundneſs of his judgment. In reſpect to cenſure it may be admitted; but ſurely the meritorious extracts from learned and admirable writers, eſpecially thoſe who are no more, ſhould, in common juſtice, have their authors' names prefixed. Mr. S. ſhould recollect that his book may, and will reach poſterity, and then the enigmatical ſtyle in which it is compoſed, will very materially diminiſh the intereſt it is otherwiſe calculated to excite.

This defect we will endeavour to ſupply, and hope to be forgiven, if on ſome occaſions we betray names which were originally intended for concealment.

P. 34. Two inſtances of ſublime ſimplicity are given:

I. The vocal parts of *O Lord we truſt alone in thee*, from the chorus in Joſeph: " O God who in thy heavenly hand."

II. The *Sanctus* from Graun's Te Deum.

Part the Second.—P. 37. The enharmonic ſcale of twenty-two ſounds is here noticed, and the principal key-notes marked with aſteriſks.

38. The difference between the major and minor ſemitone, and the impropriety of writing D ſharp for E flat, or E flat for D ſharp, is ſhown. When the letter continues the ſame as D, D ſharp) E, E flat) the interval between them is only the *minor ſemitone*, which changes neither line nor ſpace. But in the caſe of D, E flat) or E F the interval is then the *major ſemitone*, two letters being uſed, and lines or ſpaces changed. Hence the former belongs to the chromatic ſcale, and the latter to the diatonic.

P. 36. Mr. Shield gives a table of intervals, filled up with *diatonic* and *chromatic ſemitones*, in which the ſame error prevails as at p. 4, the *ſounds* being numbered, and not the *intervals*.

Minor Second C. D *flat*	Major Seventh C. B
Major Second C. D	Minor Seventh C. B *flat*
Minor Third C. E *flat*	Major Sixth C. A
Major Third C. E	Minor Sixth C. A *flat*
Perfect Fourth C. F	Perfect Fifth C. G
Sharp Fourth C. F *ſharp*	Flat Fifth C. G *flat*

Between the major ſixth and minor ſeventh, are inſerted the extreme ſharp ſixth *C—A ſharp*, and the extreme flat ſeventh *C—B double flat*; but theſe ought to have had their complements, the extreme flat third *C. E double flat*, and the extreme ſharp ſecond *C D ſharp*. The extreme ſharp fifth is alſo given without its complement, the extreme flat fourth. The word *extreme* to this interval is unuſual, and indeed unneceſſary. Another inaccuracy, which is very likely to puzzle the ſtudent, ariſes from giving two intervals, the *major octave* and the *minor octave*, and taking the epithets merely from the manner of filling them up with ſemitones, the former bearing the ſharps, and the latter the flats, although in the minor octave *C ſharp* and *F ſharp* are inſerted.

P. 40. The diſcord of the fourth, combined with the fifth, is explained for the purpoſe of accuſtoming the ſtudent to the cadences formed from it. The concluſion, with the major third in the minor mode, is mentioned, and Dr. Burney's obſervations, vol. iii, p. 114, enigmatically alluded to.

P. 41. The accompaniment of the ſcale in Arpeggio, for the violin, flute, and violencello, is given; to which is added, Rameau's minor ſcale in D (with the B flat, as well as C ſharp accidental) and the more modern method, with one flat.

P. 42. A table of common chords, with major thirds, and their derivatives, in three positions.

First Bass. Second Bass. Last Bass.

"It is likewise customary to call the first a fundamental bass, and the other two supposed basses."

P. 43. The same chord, and their derivatives, in a natural progression, through all the twenty-four keys.

This is a very useful page. We are happy to find that Mr. S. has adopted the same chain of connection with Pasquali, *alternate major and minor keys*, descending by thirds, C. A. F. D. B flat, G. &c. &c. &c. This distribution is far preferable to the circles which are found in the German authors.

P. 44. Table of sevenths with major thirds.

45. Table of sevenths with minor thirds.

46. Progressions, chromatic descents.—Enharmonic, or *more than chromatic* passages, relative keys for violin, flute, &c. &c.

P. 47. Repertory of chords and cadences arranged in arithmetical order, from the unison to the thirteenth.

The compliment which is here paid to the memory of Dr. Pepusch, is not more just than well placed.

"I have lately met with an excellent little treatise on harmony, the reading of which has given me both pleasure and information; the title is dated 1731, consequently it contains many exploded doctrines, but it likewise contains principles which will be the basis of theory in 1800, or any other century.

"The author's biographers* inform us that he became a pedant in the latter part of his life, and only valued the abstruse part of the science; but, in the above-mentioned work, he has condescended to explain his theory in such plain terms, that I have preferred his rules and examples, for the management of the unison, to my own."

P. 48. *The unison.* Examples from Dr. Pepusch, p. 10, ed. 1731, and some passages for stringed instruments.

P. 49. *The second.* Examples from Dr. Pepusch, p. 28, transient seconds, appogiatures, &c. &c.

P. 50. *The second, third, and fifth.* This chord consists of four real parts, and retards the *third, fourth, and sixth*, or the *fifth and sixth*. This fills up three pages; the examples are well chosen, and the remarks deserve notice.

P. 53. The *second, fourth, and sixth.* Mr. S. observes either the *fifth* or *fourth* must be prepared; the fourth is not

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* Namely Dr. Burney, iv, 638; Sir J. Hawkins, v, 403.

pre-

prepared in any of the examples ; but the *fifth*, as a concord, although heard before, cannot properly take that epithet.

P. 54. The *ſecond, fourth, and ſixth.* This diſcord, with its varieties, are given on five pages. There is an erratum of importance in the firſt line of p. 55, the word ſemitone has been written in haſte for *ſecond.* Among the fragments of harmony, we perceive Corelli's Paſtorale from the VIIIth Concerto (p. 58). If our limits would permit, ſome uſeful obſervations might be made on many paſſages inſerted under this head.

P. 59. The *ſecond, fourth, and ſeventh.* The diſtinction of the minor and major ſeventh, and the chords of the ſharp ſeventh, &c. &c. is here explained, but requires attentive ſtudy.

P. 60. The *ſecond, fourth, fifth, and ſeventh.* This is the eleventh of Rameau, Marpurg, &c. &c. Mr. S. has given ſome examples, with *Caledonian Cadences*, or the *Scotch Snaps* of Dr. Burney (vol. iv, p. 472.)

P. 61. The *ſecond, fourth, ſixth, and ſeventh.* This is the thirteenth of Marpurg, &c. We apprehend that this page has given Mr. Kollmann offence, as we ſhall ſoon have occaſion to remark.

P. 62. *Second and fifth.* Mr. S. ſeems to think the ſecond may be major or *minor*, and may be doubled ; but has not given any example of the latter interval.

P. 63. The third. The bad effect of ſucceſſive major thirds being exemplified, Mr. S. preſents the ſtudent with that beautiful paſſage from the Dettingen Te Deum, "We therefore pray thee," in which the different thirds are intermixed.

P. 65. *The third, fourth, and ſixth,*
The third, fourth, and ſeventh,
The third, ſixth, and ſeventh,
} are here given, with examples.

P. 66. *The fourth.* The neceſſity of uniting the ſixth to a ſeries of fourths is ſhown.

The fourth and fifth. The reſolution of the fourth into the ſixth is ſhown, by the opening of Pergoleſi's Stabat Mater, and the importance of paſſing notes demonſtrated.

P. 67. *The fourth and ſixth.*
The fourth and ſeventh.

P. 68. *The ſharp fourth* is a minor ſemitone more than the perfect fourth, and a major ſemitone leſs than the perfect fifth, &c. &c.

P. 69. *The imperfect fifth* is (like the ſharp fourth) the neareſt diviſion of the octave on keyed inſtruments.

The fifth is well explained, by altering the F to F ſharp, above B, and making B, B flat below F.

P. 70.

P. 70, contains extracts from Dr. Pepuſch (Treatiſe on Harmony, 1731, pp. 13 and 112) to ſhow the uſe of the fifth.

P. 71. Impropriety of not uſing the tenor cliff, hidden fifths, conſecutive concords, &c. &c.

P. 72. The term ſequence is introduced, and the lines of Shakeſpeare on the tetrachord, in the *Taming of the Shrew*, are given in recitative accompanied*. In a note, Mr. S. briefly explains the ancient tetrachords.

P. 74. *The extreme ſharp fifth* conſiſts of two major thirds, and is generally preceded and ſucceeded by a common chord or ſixth.

The ſequence of aſcending fifths and ſixths is again introduced, and the concluding ſymphony of "*Softly riſe*", from Dr. Boyce's Solomon, gives Mr. S. an opportunity not only of doing juſtice to the revered memory of that author, but of paying an elegant compliment to the talents of Meſſrs. Harriſon and Bartleman. We ſhall preſent the reader with the whole paſſage.

"The ſcore of the ſong which the laſt example is cited from, like a divine compoſition of Raphael, will delight and inſtruct the ſtudent in every age. I have heard a rigid theoriſt aſſert "that the repetition in it is ſuperabundant," but it is not that tireſome repetition of a paſſage, one note higher each time, which the Italians juſtly cenſure, and call *Roſalia*, but a repetition that is always welcomed by the attentive ear, ſuch repetition as heightens the effect of Paeſiello's, and Boccherini's admirable compoſitions. The abovementioned captious critic likewiſe objected to the tenor's iterating the ſame tones which are ſuſtained by the ſolo inſtrument; but if he were to hear this air ſung and accompanied in England, and not become a convert, it certainly would be but an act of juſtice to place his name very high in the liſt of hypercritics.

"Although the voice part *(called by the Italians Cantilena)* is elegant and impreſſive, yet the baſſoon is ſo attractive, that the concluding ſymphony is never rendered inaudible by a clamorous encore, but liſtened to with ſilent rapture, *that beſt applauſe to ſublime performances.*

"Having dared to differ in opinion with a foreign theoriſt reſpecting the merits of our national favourite, the reader, who has not the ſcore to refer to, will probably ſay that I ought to have given a longer extract from it, but method and the limits of this volume confine me here to examples of the fifth followed by the ſixth, or, ſuch is my veneration for the productions of its compoſer, that I could fill the book with his excellencies.

"Among the models for *Imitations* in the third part is a ſection drawn by the ſame maſterly hand, as a farther proof that his deſigns are not for an age "but for all time." The compoſition alluded to is an unpubliſhed duet for a tenor and bariton, which has been exhibited

* N. B. Shakeſpeare goes on to complete the hexachord, though Mr. S. does not notice it.

to

to ſuch an advantage (by two of our capital town fingers) as to enrapture the whole country at the muſic meetings. It is to be hoped that the whole of this model will be brought before the eye of the public, as it will prove a monument to perpetuate the author's benevolent feelings, and remind man of his duty. For this is the inſcription:

" Here ſhall ſoft charity repair,
And breaks the bonds of grief,
Down the harrow'd couch of care,
Man to man muſt bring relief." P. 75.

We cannot terminate this firſt part of our review, without paying our grateful tribute to the ingenious Mr. S. for the pleaſure we have received from the peruſal of his book. We could have wiſhed that " *the conductors of the Lent oratories*" (ſee Note) had furniſhed Mr. S. with more materials from the ſame great original, particularly from his anthems, " Lord thou has been our refuge," and " Bleſſed is he." The great merits of Dr. Boyce are known but to few; and the ſilent reproach that ſixteen years have elapſed, ſince the iſſuing of propoſals for the publication of thoſe Anthems, will, we truſt, be ſpeedily obliterated. Mr. S. however has done his duty. He has given to the world his opinion of the ſterling value of all Dr. Boyce's compoſitions, and his readers may anxiouſly expect that *Mr. Aſhley* will no longer withhold the publication of the Anthems. The example (p. 91) to which Mr. S. there refers, is indeed not among them; but the celebrated verſe for three trebles, " We are orphans and fatherleſs," is not more ſcientific than affecting; and affords a noble inſtance, that the moſt learned combinations, in the hands of a great muſician, may produce the moſt ſtriking effects.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ART. VI. *The Elements of the Conic Sections, adapted to the Uſe of Students in Philoſophy. By the Rev. S. Vince, A. M. F. R. S. Plumian Profeſſor of Aſtronomy and Experimental Philoſophy in the Univerſity of Cambridge. The Second Edition.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. with Plates. Deighton, Cambridge; Lunn, London.

THE great improvements of the demonſtrations which were given in the firſt edition, and the number of very uſeful propoſitions which are added, render this edition almoſt a new work; of the plan and execution of which, it is the more neceſſary for us to give ſome account, as we find it has been hitherto

therto omitted. Moſt writers on Conic Sections have extended their demonſtrations to every property which they could deduce from the nature of the curves; and thus they have compoſed elaborate treatiſes, but a ſmall part of which is found to have any uſe in the other branches of ſcience. But Mr. Vince has adopted the plan of ſelecting ſuch propoſitions only as are uſeful in mathematical and philoſophical enquiries. It is true, all theſe are to be met with in more voluminous writers; but in order to arrive at their demonſtrations, the reader is fatigued by having to go over a great number of propoſitions, of no other uſe but to demonſtrate thoſe that are uſeful. In the treatiſe however before us, the author has given every thing which is uſeful to the philoſopher and mathematician, without the introduction of any other propoſitions. The work is thus reduced to a ſmall compaſs; the demonſtrations are ſhort and very plain; and the ſtudent will find that he can here very eaſily acquire every thing neceſſary upon the ſubject.

The parabola is defined to be a curve formed by the interſection of two equal ſtraight lines, one of which revolves about a centre, and the other moves perpendicularly to a given line; and the ellipſe and hyperbola, are defined to be curves formed by the interſection of two ſtraight lines, revolving about two centres, the ſum and difference of which are conſtant. From theſe definitions all the various properties of the curves are very readily deduced; and the general relation between the abſciſſas and ordinates is found to agree with that which exiſts in the curve formed by cutting a cone; and hence, theſe curves are ſhown to be the Conic Sections. It may be thought that the moſt direct and natural method would be, to demonſtrate all the properties of the curve, immediately from the ſection of the cone; but it is extremely difficult for a learner to obtain a clear idea of the ſituations and interſections of the various planes which, in this caſe, muſt be introduced, as they muſt all be drawn upon the ſame plane. To render the ſubject therefore more intelligible and eaſy, the deſcription of the curves is given upon a plane, and it is afterwards ſhown, that theſe curves are the Conic Sections; every thing therefore which has been demonſtrated of ſuch curves, muſt be a property of the Conic Section. By treating the ſubject in this manner, all difficulties are avoided, and you equally aſcertain the properties required. Other definitions of the curves might be given, from which the properties might be deduced; but there is none from which they can be derived in ſo ſimple a manner, as from the above deſcriptions. Some authors have aſſumed the relation between the line drawn from the focus to the curve, and a perpendicular from the ſame point of the curve to the direc-

directrix, as conſtant, and from this definition they have deduced all the properties; but the inveſtigations are here by no means ſo ſimple as from the other definition. We conceive, therefore, that Mr. Vince has treated the ſubject in a manner beſt adapted to the generality of readers. All the various properties which occur in natural philoſophy, and more particularly phyſical aſtronomy, are here demonſtrated; and from the intimate knowledge which the author has of theſe ſubjects, he was well able to judge what was required for that purpoſe. He has alſo been particularly attentive to give every thing which is neceſſary for the reading of Sir I. Newton's *Principia;* and here, for the better accommodation of his readers, he has uſed the ſame letters in his figures which Newton has employed, which will be found a great convenience in reading that author. The nature of the circle of curvature is here fully explained, and the length of the diameter, and the chords paſſing through the centre and focus of the Conic Section, are inveſtigated, of which ſo much uſe is made in the *Principia;* in ſhort, every thing is demonſtrated which can be neceſſary for the underſtanding of that great work. The circle of curvature is defined to be that circle, the ſagitta of which is to the ſagitta of the curve, ultimately in a ratio of equality; and it is upon this property, that the author has calculated the diameter and chords of that circle. This definition alſo leads immediately to all which Newton has aſſumed, reſpecting the circle of curvature; that is, that the force and velocity in the circle of curvature are the ſame as in the curve; for the ſagitta, *dato tempore*, is as the force, and therefore the limiting ratio of the ſagittas being that of equality, the forces muſt be equal; and the velocity, *dato tempore*, being as the ſpace deſcribed, and the arcs of the curve and circle, cut off by the ſagittas, being ultimately equal, the velocities are equal. The author concludes his work with the conſtruction of the Seventeenth Propoſition of the Third Section of the Firſt Book of the *Principia*, and the determination of the Conic Section, having given three lines drawn from the focus, and the angles between; and hence the orbit of a planet may be found, both in reſpect to figure, and the ſituation of the apſides, having given three diſtances of the planet from the Sun, and the angles included between them. We can therefore recommend this work to the mathematical and philoſophical ſtudent, as comprehending every thing on the ſubject, which he can poſſibly want in his ſcientific reſearches.

ART.

ART. VII. *A Spital Sermon, preached at Chriſt Church, upon Eaſter Tueſday, April* 15, 1800. *To which are added, Notes. By S. Parr, L. L. D.* 4to. 161 pp. 7s. 6d. Mawman, &c. 1801.

WE expected a Sermon from Dr. Parr, but were agreeably ſurpriſed by receiving a volume. The learned author ſeems averſe, in general, to the taſk of employing the preſs; but, when the firſt repugnance has been conquered, the riches of his learning, and the fertility of his mind, naturally expand his publication beyond the neceſſary limits of his original deſign. He delights to illuſtrate ſubjects which the public ought to underſtand; and to give, by citing them, new celebrity to authors, whom the public ought to conſult. It is thus that he has raiſed his late Sermon at Chriſt's Church to an importance, which thoſe readers directly acknowledge, who are able to appreciate his reaſonings; and they obliquely prove, who venture to attack them.

The Sermon is founded upon the well-known text in the Epiſtle to the Galatians, "*As we have, therefore, opportunity, let us do good unto all men, eſpecially unto them that are of the houſehold of faith.*" Gal. vi, 10. From this text, Dr. P. takes occaſion to notice the oppoſite ſyſtems of the moraliſts, who have conſidered all our views as ſelfiſh, and of the modern philanthropiſts. The former, however, as no longer faſhionable, are paſt without much animadverſion; to the latter he particularly alludes, when he ſays, that the firſt propoſition in the text, "do good unto all men," has been violated by thoſe who inſiſt moſt ſtrenuouſly on the latter; while the juſtneſs of the ſecond has been obliquely controverted, or obſcurely and reluctantly admitted. In the proſecution of the ſubjects thus ſuggeſted, he undertakes, firſt, to examine "how far, by the conſtitution of human nature, and the circumſtances of human life, the principles of particular and univerſal benevolence are compatible;" and, ſecondly, to make ſome obſervations upon the inſtitution for which he preached.

That theſe ſubjects will be ably and eloquently illuſtrated by ſuch a writer is ſo certain, that the declaration of the fact ſeems hardly neceſſary; and ſtill leſs the proof of it by example. But we cannot refuſe ourſelves the pleaſure of inſerting the following paſſage, both for the beauty of the quotation with which it opens, and for the vigour of the apoſtrophe which follows.

"If nature," exclaims the immortal Hooker, "ſhould intermit her courſes, and leave, though it were for a while, the obſervation of her own

own laws—if the cœleſtial ſphere ſhould forget it's wonted motions—if the prince of the light of heaven, which now rejoiceth as a giant to run it's unwearied courſe, ſhould, as it were, through a languid faintneſs, begin to ſtand and to reſt himſelf—if the moon ſhould wander from her beaten way, the clouds yield no rain, the earth be defeated of every heavenly influence, and the fruits thereof pine away—what would become of man himſelf, whom theſe things do now ſerve?"

"And thus, we may aſk, if the elements which give life and vigour to the moral world ſhould be diſſolved—if the mother could forget the child that "hanged from her breaſts"—if the friend, "with whom we took ſweet counſel together," ſhould forſake us, when we are compelled to beg our daily bread—if they, to whoſe ſuccour we ran on the firſt ſight of their diſtreſs, and poured "wine and oil into their bleeding wounds," ſhould ponder, ere they ſtretch forth their hands, to reſcue us from wretchedneſs, and pauſe, leſt peradventure ſome other human being might be found a little more virtuous, and a little more miſerable than ourſelves—if the tears of the widow and the cries of the orphan ſhould be diſregarded, till their conduct had paſſed the ordeal of ſome rigid principle, or it *may* be too, of ſome untoward prejudice, in thoſe before whom they lie proſtrate—if they who have trodden the ſame ſoil with ourſelves, ſpoken the ſame language, followed the ſame cuſtoms, enjoyed the ſame rights, obeyed the ſame laws, bowed before the ſame altar, ſhould be no more endeared to us than other men, whoſe kindneſs we have *never* experienced, whoſe faces we have never ſeen, whoſe voices we have never heard—if all theſe things were done under the pretence of ſome obligation, which ſtern, inflexible juſtice lays upon us, to be extreme in marking what is done amiſs, and to weigh every action of man, every motive to act, every conſequence of acting, in the balance which every individual may ſet up within his own boſom, for adjuſting in every caſe the direct and moſt efficacious means to promote the general good—what would become of ſociety, which parental affection, which friendſhip, which gratitude, which compaſſion, which patriotiſm do now uphold? how changed would be the ſcenes around us? how blunted the edge of all our finer affections? how ſcanty the ſum of our happineſs? how multiplied and embittered the ſources of our woe?" P. 9.

The notes to this diſcourſe abound with citations at large from the beſt moral writers of ancient and modern times; and amply illuſtrate not only the matter contained in the diſcourſe, but other collateral points, which the writer thought it uſeful to introduce. Activity and patience it certainly required to collect ſo many authorities; but theſe, ſays the author,

"were ſupported through every ſtage of it, by the deſire which I felt to place before my readers the deciſions of the moſt approved authors on the moſt uſeful queſtions; and by the hope which I entertained that the curioſity of ſome, and the induſtry of others, might be excited to a fuller peruſal of the works to which I have referred them." P. 158.

Among

Among the authors leſs read at preſent than they deſerve, to whoſe writings attention will undoubtedly be revived by the recommendation of Dr. Parr, are the excellent Profeſſor Hutcheſon* (author of the Enquiry into the Ideas of Beauty and Virtue, the Treatiſe on the Paſſions, and the ſyſtem of Moral Philoſophy) and Mr. Dugald Stewart. The ſubjects principally illuſtrated are the nature of *juſtice* and *benevolence* (particularly in oppoſition to the author of a book, now nearly forgotten, called *Political Juſtice*) and the abſurdity of Atheiſm. Among the excellent obſervations which Dr. P. has written and collected on the ſubject of Atheiſm, the following paſſage is ſo eminently good as to demand our public approbation. We are particularly pleaſed with the very juſt remarks on the conſcious inſecurity of Atheiſts in their own opinions.

"What, I would aſk, are the general effects of Superſtition and Atheiſm upon the happineſs and the conduct of mankind? Superſtition, it is granted, has many direct ſorrows, but Atheiſm has no direct joys. Superſtition admits fear mingled with hope, but Atheiſm, while it excludes hope, affords a very imperfect ſecurity againſt fear. Superſtition is never expoſed to the dreary vacuities in the ſoul, over which Atheiſm is wont to brood in ſolitude and ſilence; but Atheiſm is ſometimes haunted by forebodings ſcarcely leſs confuſed, or leſs unquiet, than thoſe by which Superſtition is annoyed. Superſtition ſtands aghaſt at the puniſhments reſerved for wicked men in another ſtate; but Atheiſm cannot diſprove the *poſſibility* of ſuch a ſtate to all men, accompanied by conſciouſneſs, and fraught with evils equally dreadful in degree, and even in duration, with thoſe puniſhments. Superſtition has often preſerved men from crimes; but Atheiſm tends to protect them from weakneſſes only. Superſtition impoſes freſh reſtraints upon the ſenſual appetites, though it may often let looſe the malignant paſſions; but Atheiſm takes away many reſtraints from thoſe appetites, without throwing equal checks upon thoſe paſſions, under many circumſtances which may excite them in the minds of its votaries. Superſtition is eager from a vicious exceſs of credulity, but Atheiſm is often obſtinate from an exceſs of incredulity, equally vicious. Superſtition is ſometimes docile from conſcious weakneſs; but Atheiſm is always haughty from real or ſuppoſed ſtrength. Superſtition errs, and perverts only in conſequence of errour; but Atheiſm rejects, and, for the moſt part, diſdains to examine after rejection. Superſtition catches

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* "For the wiſe and virtuous Hutcheſon I feel the ſame veneration which Dr. Reid and Dr. A. Smith have frequently expreſſed. But from my converſation with men of letters, I have reaſon to fear that his writings are too much neglected. If therefore the frequent, and, I truſt, the pertinent quotations I have made from them, ſhould be inſtrumental in bringing them back to the notice of my countrymen, I ſhall have rendered no inconſiderable ſervice to the cauſe of virtue." P. 89.

at

at appearances, but Atheiſm ſtarts back from realities. Superſtition may, in ſome favourable moment, be awakened to the call of truth; but Atheiſm is generally deaf to the voice of that "charmer, charm ſhe ever ſo wiſely."

"When I read the Ἀμαξιτὰ ῥήματα of Lucretius and other antient Atheiſts,—when I ſee them σαλακίζοντας καὶ ἀλαζονευομένους upon their ſuperiority to popular prepoſſeſſions and vulgar terrours, I am ſometimes led to *ſuſpect*, that like heroes who laugh at ſpectres by day-light, and ſhudder at them in the dark, they were ſtruggling with inquietude, which they wiſhed to *conceal* as well as to aſſuage, and endeavouring to collect that courage from the *buſtle of their words*, which they did not *habitually* feel within the receſſes of their hearts. My preſent concern, I am aware, is not with the ſpeculative proofs, but with the moral effects of Atheiſm. Yet upon a queſtion, which, in the abſtruſer parts of it, is by a very wiſe man called "perdifficilis et perobſcura," and to the conſideration of which, "omnes duce natura vehimur," we may, without the imputation of folly, venture to aſk, whether the arguments againſt Theiſm be ſuch as uſually to produce a *ſteady* aſſent, and to warrant an *unlimited* affiance. Without the imputation of perverſeneſs, we may not be in haſte to apply to the judgment of every Atheiſt, what Taylor eloquently ſays of the will, that, "like the magnetic needle, it was full of trembling and uncertainty ere it became fixed at its beloved point, wavered at firſt, becauſe at firſt it doubted, and then was at reſt, becauſe it *could* doubt no more." After reaching that ſtate of reſt, Atheiſm indeed may have the credit of reſcuing a man from the agitations of deluſive hopes, and the torments of groundleſs fears. But may it not deſtroy at the ſame time *other* fears, which are very ſalutary in checking our fantaſtic deſires, and in calming our turbulent reſentments; and may it not extinguiſh other hopes too, which ſeem *neceſſary* to ſupport the bulk of mankind in their paſſage through this vale of tears?" P. 97.

Many other ſentiments of weight and value, on the ſame ſubject, will be found in this part of the notes. At p. 107, the author, recollecting that ſome of the ſentiments of M. Turgot, whom he oppoſes on the ſubject of public charities, might poſſibly be turned alſo againſt our Engliſh univerſities, enters into a long and elaborate defence of thoſe moſt excellent inſtitutions. In the courſe of this defence, he is more particularly engaged with Mr. Gibbon than with Turgot; and anſwers the reflections of that author againſt Oxford, which appear in his poſthumous works, in the moſt impreſſive and maſterly ſtyle. He has taken this opportunity alſo of paying compliment to a very large liſt of academical men, whom he mentions as living proofs of the advantages to be derived from the education of Oxford and Cambridge. We honour the enthuſiaſm which dictated this recapitulation, and the feeling by which it is continued; and cannot forbear to ſay, that if it depended on the unanimous vote of thoſe whom he has thus celebrated, the

name

name of Dr. Parr would be added to the liſt, in ſome very conſpicuous and honourable place. With reſpect to the particulars of the defence, the part, in our opinion, moſt important, becauſe oppoſed to a prejudice very ſtrongly excited by the words of Gibbon, is that where he accounts, from the change of manners, for the diſuſe of public lectures. The elements of the learned languages, the Doctor argues, inſtead of being taught by Profeſſors, as in the days of Cheke and Smith, are now learned previouſly at ſchools. The ſcholaſtic ſyſtems, which the old Profeſſors conveyed, are now alſo diſuſed.

"The multiplication of books, the facility of procuring them, and the cuſtom of reading them, may be conſidered as additional reaſons for the diminiſhed uſefulneſs of lectures, upon the abſtruſer parts of ſcience, and upon various ſubjects of claſſical, and even oriental literature.

"Under theſe circumſtances, which Mr. Gibbon was well qualified to appreciate, if he had been *diſpoſed to examine* them, the inſtruction which formerly was conveyed by Profeſſors to a promiſcuous multitude of the young, the old, the trifling loiterer, and the attentive ſtudent, aſſembled in the ſchools, is now conſigned with happier effect to private and public tutors within the walls of colleges. The plans for ſuch inſtruction admit ſufficient comprehenſion and ſufficient regularity for uſe. The diviſions are eaſily adapted to the capacities of thoſe, who underſtand what they have heard, and retain what they have underſtood. The tutor can interrogate where the lecturer, perhaps, would only dictate, and therefore, in his intercourſe with learners, he has more opportunities for aſcertaining their proficiency, correcting their miſapprehenſions, and relieving their embarraſſments. Doubtleſs, when the preſent condition of academical affairs is compared with that of which we read in the laſt century, and thoſe which preceded it, *appearances* are much changed, but the *ſubſtance* remains unimpaired. A conceited and ſuperficial ſpectator may eaſily deceive himſelf; but a diſpaſſionate and judicious obſerver will underſtand, and often approve. A witling may glean materials for raillery, but a ſcholar will find ample room for reflection and commendation. Reports may ſometimes miſguide thoſe who are content to *hear* only; but facts will intereſt, and upon the whole, ſatisfy thoſe who frequently and carefully inſpect." P. 126.

With the ſtrongeſt conviction do we aſſert, on the whole, that the attack of Gibbon on the univerſities was frivolous and ſuperficial, and that the defence of Dr. Parr is ſound, able, and irreſiſtible.

In one digreſſion which Dr. Parr has admitted, we are particularly concerned. In his eightieth page, he cites the "Picture of Chriſtian Philoſophy," by Mr. Fellowes; and then enters into a ſtrenuous vindication of the author, againſt the cenſure of our Review. For the handſome manner in which he has

has done this, he deſerves our thanks; and by the very ſtrong commendations he has given to the character of Mr. F. he certainly more than repays him for any conſequence that could ariſe from our cenſure. We rejoice to read ſuch a teſtimony in favour of Mr. F. of whom our reviewer judged, we know, without any perſonal knowledge, and merely from the internal evidence of his work. Of the book we think as we did: that it is in many points dangerous, and in many raſh. If the author is not exactly what we conjectured from the book, it is no new thing for a book to convey a wrong idea of the writer; and we are truly glad that the difference is, in this inſtance, on the favourable ſide.

We ſhall here take our leave of a diſcourſe*, as remarkable perhaps for the abundance of matter diſcuſſed in, or connected with it, as any Sermon that was ever publiſhed. What we think it neceſſary to ſay to any opponents of the doctrines here defended, will be referred to other articles.

ART. VIII. *Medical Inquiries and Obſervations, containing an Account of the Yellow Fever as it appeared in Philadelphia in* 1797, *and Obſervations upon the Nature and Cure of the Gout and Hydrophobia, By Benjamin Ruſh, M. D. Profeſſor of Medicine in the Univerſity of Pennſylvania. Vol. V.* 8vo. 236 pp. 5s. Mawman.

IN the firſt part, compriſing a little more than half the volume, this author gives an account of the yellow fever at Philadelphia, as it appeared in the year 1797. This is preceded by an account of the weather, and certain phænomena in the elements, that had been obſerved, from the time the fever of 1794 had ſubſided, to its reappearance, in order to connect this part with what the author had before written on the ſubject. This we mention, as countenancing the opinion of Mr. Webſter, noticed in our Review for Auguſt laſt, p. 161, that the yellow, and in general all peſtilential fevers, are preceded by ſome diſturbances in the elements, ſuch as the appearance of a comet, eruptions of volcanos, ſtorms, tempeſts, ſevere froſts, inundations, &c. In Auguſt, 1795, the author ſays, there were heavy ſhowers of rain which carried away the fences, bridges, barns, mills, and

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* We are ſorry to obſerve, though ſufficient cauſes perhaps may be aſſigned, that this publication abounds with errors of the preſs.

dwelling

dwelling-houſes, in many places; ſeveral caſes of bilious yellow fever occurred about this time, one of them attended with cynanche trachealis. In July, 1796, a beautiful corona, or halo appeared, and in the ſpring and ſummer of the following years, unequal quantities of muſquitoes, ants, and cockroaches, were obſerved, and the martins and ſwallows were ſaid to have diſappeared for a time from the city and its neighbourhood; a diſeaſe alſo prevailed among the cats, which was generally fatal. Soon after the yellow fever made its appearance in the city. The author deſcribes eleven different forms under which this fever appeared, then adds,

"Notwithſtanding this variety of forms, the moderate caſes were few, compared with thoſe of a malignant and dangerous nature. It was upon this account that the mortality was greater, in the ſame number of patients, who were treated with the ſame remedies, than it was in the years 1793 and 1794." P. 36.

The number of deaths, by the fever, in the months of Auguſt, September, and October, 1797, amounted to between ten and eleven hundred. This great mortality, the author attributes to the neglect of bleeding and other evacuants, in the commencement of the fever, on the early and liberal uſe of which, he conceives the whole cure to depend.

"Mr. Brown's fever," he ſays, "was cured by the loſs of upwards of an hundred ounces of blood, and a plentiful ſalivation. Mr. Smith, miſtaking the nature of the diſeaſe with which he was attacked, deferred calling in aſſiſtance, until the fever had made ſuch an impreſſion on his viſcera, that depleting remedies were in vain uſed to cure him. He died in the prime of life," &c. P. 32.

If called early, Dr. Ruſh always began by bleeding the patient. The quantity of blood drawn, and the number of times the operation was repeated, depended rather on the intenſeneſs of the fever, than the conſtitution of the patient. He mentions one caſe in which 150, and another in which 176, ounces of blood were taken away ſucceſsfully. He then gave briſk purges to remove the putrid *ſaburra* with which the bowels, he ſays, were always loaded. Twenty grains of calomel, adminiſtered by itſelf, and repeated at intervals, were found moſt effectual in anſwering this purpoſe. If the fever ſtill continued, he had recourſe to frictions with mercurial ointment to excite ſalivation, on the early appearance of which, the ſucceſs of the proceſs depended. He only loſt two patients, he ſays, on whom the mercury produced its ſpecific effect. He decries the uſe of emetics, and mentions two or three perſons who died ſoon after taking them. Salivation was not ſucceſsful, unleſs preceded by bleeding and purging.

Notwithstanding the confidence with which this author speaks of the success of his method of treating the yellow fever, and although several other physicians were made converts to his opinion, they had not the good fortune to conciliate the favour of their fellow citizens, or the suffrages of a majority of the physicians in the city, who followed a different line of practice, and, as it was said, with more success.

"It was reported," this author says, "of several physicians who were opposed to copious bleeding, that they lost a much smaller proportion of their patients with the prevailing fever. Upon inquiry," he adds, "they had lost more." P. 127.

That no specific and effectual mode has yet been discovered of curing the fever seems evident, from its proving fatal to so large a proportion of the persons who were attacked by it, on its last appearance at Philadelphia. The author passes some severe strictures on the conduct of such of his brethren as have not adopted his practice. These we shall not repeat, as they are evidently the effect of party animosity, which we are concerned to find the dreadful scenes surrounding them has not moderated.

The gout, which the author next treats of, is similar, he thinks, in its cause and essence, to the yellow fever, and may be cured by bleeding, purging, and other evacuating remedies, or, if those fail, "a salivation," he says, "should be excited, as speedily as possible, by means of mercury." P. 183. A similar treatment should be employed, he says, in the cure of hydrophobia, which he considers "a malignant state of fever. The disease in all rabid animals is," he says, "a fever." P. 215. It is induced in them by the usual causes "of fever, such as scanty or putrid aliment, extreme cold, and the sudden action of heat upon their bodies." The cure is to be effected by the remedies recommended in the yellow fever and the gout. That bleeding has been tried ineffectually in the cure of hydrophobia, he acknowledges; but the failure must be attributed, he thinks, to the timid and too sparing use of it. "To be effectual," he says, "it should be used in the most liberal manner. The loss of 100 to 200 ounces of blood will probably be necessary, in most cases, to effect a cure." P. 227. Our readers may be surprised at finding three diseases, so apparently and obviously different from each other, as the yellow fever, gout, and hydrophobia, treated in one and the same manner; but they must consider this as the happy fruit of the new discovery, which has contributed so much to facilitate the study and knowledge of medicine, to wit, that all disease proceeding from, and consisting in, a morbid action of the fibres, the indication

cation in all caſes muſt be equally ſimple, requiring ſolely that the morbid action be checked, and a ſalutary action induced in its place. It is melancholy after all to conſider, that, notwithſtanding the ſublime diſcoveries of the new philoſophy, and the confidence with which this author, and other of its proſelites, ſpeak of the application of its tenets to the practice of medicine, that the yellow fever, gout, hydrophobia, and all the other diſeaſes that have been acknowledged to be difficult to manage, or totally intractable, continue the ſame ravages they were accuſtomed to make, before theſe diſcoveries were divulged. This the author attributes to the ſtubbornneſs and obſtinacy of the phyſicians who have been educated in the old ſchool; but it ſhould be remembered, that although there were thirteen of the phyſicians in Philadelphia, who were converts to the principles of this author, yet, from his own confeſſion, it appears, that the mortality from the yellow fever, in the months of Auguſt, September, and October, in the year 1797, was greater, in proportion to the number of perſons affected by it, than had been known at any former period.

ART. IX. *An Examination of the Sentence in the Caſe of the Swediſh Convoy, pronounced in the High Court of Admiralty of England, on the 11th of June, 1799; together with a previous Hiſtorical Sketch of the European, and in particular the Engliſh, Syſtem of Capture. Tranſlated from the Daniſh, as written by Profeſſor Schlegel, Doctor and Profeſſor of Laws at the Univerſity of Copenhagen, Aſſeſſor in the Supreme Court, Member of various learned Societies, &c. &c.* 8vo. 164 pp. No Publiſher's Name. 1800.

ART. X. *Upon the Viſitation of Neutral Veſſels under Convoy; or, an Impartial Examination of a Judgment pronounced by the Engliſh Court of Admiralty, the 11th of June, 1799, in the Caſe of the Swediſh Convoy; with ſome Additions and Corrections. By Mr. J. F. W. Schlegel, Doctor and Profeſſor of Law, &c. Tranſlated from the Daniſh, under the Inſpection of the Author, by Mr. De Juge, French Inſtructor at the Academy of Cadets of Marine at Copenhagen, and thence into Engliſh.* 8vo. 187 pp. 4s. Debrett. 1801.

THE controverſy which gave birth to theſe publications has ſince been ſubmitted to a deciſion of a very different nature; and the reſult of Britiſh valour, combined with the fortunate change in the councils of the chief northern power, has

produced such a settlement of the points in question as, we trust, will preclude all future dispute. Yet, it may still be interesting to our readers, whether as literary men, as lawyers, or as politicians, to view the principal arguments produced in this important contest, and to be enabled to judge whether our "men of the pen" have not shown themselves as much superior to *their* antagonists, as our men of the sword have to the adversaries of their country.

The sentence pronounced by Sir William Scott (than whom no abler or more impartial judge has ever presided in a Court of Admiralty) condemned the Swedish vessels in question upon these grounds: "1. That the right of visiting and searching neutral vessels upon the high seas, whatever be the ships, whatever the cargoes, whatever the destinations, is an incontestible right of the lawfully commissioned cruizers of a belligerent nation: 2. That the authority of the sovereign of the neutral country being interposed in any manner of mere force, cannot *legally* vary the rights of a lawfully commissioned belligerent cruizer: 3. That the penalty for the violent contravention of this right is the confiscation of the property so withheld from visitation and search." The above principles, the learned judge maintained on the best authorities, and with powerful, we had almost said invincible, arguments; and he applied them, very distinctly and forcibly, to the circumstances of the case in question. To impeach the grounds of this determination, and to invalidate its authority, is the professed object of the Danish Professor; but his work has manifestly a further, and still more important tendency, namely, to establish all those doctrines in regard to the commerce of neutral nations, for which the northern powers have contended, not only to prove that merchant vessels, under convoy, should be exempted from search, but also to establish the great principle, that free ships, when not laden with contraband articles, make free goods; "and that those goods alone should be esteemed contraband of war which immediately, and in their actual form, are destined for warlike purposes."

To maintain these points, he gives a short history of the maritime laws, as they relate to neutral commerce; in which he admits, that the celebrated code, which the chief commercial states agreed upon, and even *swore to observe*, and which, he confesses, prevailed in the 14th and 15th centuries, called *Consolato del Mare*, had determined, "that enemy's goods in neutral ships should be considered as liable to condemnation, on paying the stipulated freight to the neutral owner."

After this clear statement of a general rule, so expressly agreed to, and solemnly ratified, we were surprised to see the manner

manner in which this Profeſſor, and Judge of Laws, attempts to get rid of a rule, ſo plain and ſo deciſive. We ſhould have expected to find, that a code of laws ſo eſtabliſhed had been, by the *ſame* general conſent, and in a manner *equally* ſolemn, diſannulled. Nothing like this is ſtated by the learned author. "Difficulties," he tells us, "aroſe in aſcertaining the nature of the property," the proprietors "*began to wiſh* for a more certain criterion." From theſe ſuppoſed wiſhes, from the circumſtance that the Dutch were intereſted in ſuch a change in the maritime laws, and that "moſt of the commercial treaties, from the middle of the laſt century" (that is to ſay, private treaties between individual ſtates) have been concluded agreeably to the principle, that "free ſhips make free goods," does this writer* infer a total revolution in the ſyſtem of public law, the ſolemn eſtabliſhment and ratification of which, by all the maritime powers, he had juſt before expreſsly allowed. To make this inſtance of an inconſequential argument the more ſtriking, if poſſible, he proceeds to tell us, that this new doctrine was not at any period admitted by the belligerent nations, but that France and Spain have, in ſeveral inſtances, and England has uniformly, acted on a principle diametrically oppoſite. Can we, after this, wonder that this writer ſhould maintain doctrines wholly contrary to thoſe of the beſt and moſt impartial writers on the law of nations, and that he ſhould repreſent the four diſtinguiſhed lawyers (among whom was Lord Mansfield) who drew up the very able anſwer to the King of Pruſſia's claims in the war of the Auſtrian ſucceſſion, as "*above a century behind hand in the maritime law of nations*"? The Profeſſor proceeds to ſtate, and of courſe with ſome degree of triumph, the armed neutrality of the northern powers during the laſt war, and the conduct of the belligerent powers thereupon. From theſe premiſes the writer infers (with what juſtice may be eaſily conceived) that "the maxim of "free ſhip free goods," was already acknowledged by the middle of the 16th century, and that it was acknowledged and ſpecifically ſanctioned by all the maritime powers and ſtates, Great Britain excepted, as not only conventional, but agreeable to the eſtabliſhed law of nations and fundamental right."

Almoſt in the next ſentence, however, he admits that the King of Sweden, when himſelf at war with Ruſſia, wholly diſregarded this maxim, which, ſays the Profeſſor, "he had heretofore ſo laudably and valiantly maintained." In the

* In the edition by Debrett, he more poſitively aſſerts it, but gives no authority for the aſſertion.

ſtatement

statement which follows, of the conduct of Great Britain and France during the present war, it appears that neither of these powers has, to the present period, conducted itself in any respect conformably to the alledged neutral system.

The Professor then proceeds to examine and impeach the sentence of Sir William Scott on the Swedish convoy, and, after some preliminary observations, he sets forth and endeavours to invalidate the three* positions laid down by the learned judge, on the right of visiting neutral vessels, and the consequence of resistance to that right.

To the first of these positions, he opposes the extraordinary doctrine laid down in the Introduction, namely, that "privateering at sea militates against the general and natural principle of the rights of nations." But admitting it to be lawful against an enemy, he denies that it is so against "a neutral who takes no share in the war whatever:" as if the vessel of a neutral power, conveying enemies' property, or warlike stores, to an enemy, does not thereby, as to such goods or stores, depart from its neutrality, and forfeit that protection which it would otherwise be entitled to receive. The second position he declares to be false, and asserts that the authority to take possession of an enemy's property applies only to "property belonging to the state;" and, in proof of this, he alledges the practice of levying contributions in a conquered country; a practice which, we should conceive, decidedly proves the existence of such a right, though it tends to moderate the severity, and prevent the abuse of it†.

After such assertions, we can hardly be surprized at the novel doctrine, that the ship of a neutral, on the high seas, is still, to all intents and purposes, a part of the territory of the neutral state; or at the argument, so frequently insisted upon, that particular treaties, allowing exceptions to a general rule of law, disprove the existence of that rule.

The remainder of this treatise (of which it has been our purpose rather to give a few samples than a complete abridgment) consists chiefly of arguments tending to justify the claim of neutral states to exempt their merchant-vessels from search, by appointing convoys to them (on which we will only observe, that here too the writer attempts to draw the exceptions in particular treaties into a general principle) to prove, that re-

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* Cited above, p. 68.

† See Burlamaqui, vol. iii. cap. 7, sect. 21, which implies the direct reverse of the Professor's doctrine. Also Vattel, book iii. cap. 9, sect 105, which manifestly speaks of the goods of *individuals*, not of the belligerent state.

ſiſtance to ſuch a ſearch does not incur the penalty of confiſcation, and to ſhow that the circumſtances of this caſe, of the Swediſh convoy, do not amount to a reſiſtance, but only to a threat, which never was carried into effect. He laſtly, on what he terms the *material* ground of confiſcation, contends that the cargoes (which were ſhip-timber, hemp, pitch, and tar) could not be deemed "warlike contraband ſtores." As moſt of his reaſonings on theſe topics are ſtated in the anſwer of Dr. Croke, it is the leſs neceſſary to detail them here.

Subjoined to this tract is the ſentence of Sir W. Scott, already ſtated, and an account of the caſe of Saleucci v. Johnſon, from Mr. Park's Treatiſe on Inſurance; in which the three puiſne Judges of the King's Bench (in the abſence of Lord Mansfield) held, that where a neutral ſhip had been condemned for reſiſting the ſearch of a cruizer, the underwriters could not avail themſelves of this condemnation in their defence.

ART. XI. *Remarks on Mr. Schlegel's Work upon the Viſitation of Neutral Veſſels under Convoy. By Alexander Croke, LL.D. Advocate in Doctors' Commons.* 8vo. 157 pp. 4s. White. 1801.

WE now proceed to examine the able anſwer of Dr. Croke; an anſwer which, perhaps, would ſcarcely have been neceſſary had this been merely a *literary* controverſy, and were it ſubmitted to the learned and judicious alone. But the honour of the Britiſh nation required that arguments, however weak, which flowed from reſpectable authority, and ſeem to have been ſanctioned by the governments who advanced the claims, ſhould be ſhown to the world in their true light, and that the cauſe of Britain ſhould be ſupported as much by the force of her arguments, as by the vigour of her arms.

After a few preliminary obſervations, on the motives and conduct of ſome of the neutral nations, Dr. Croke expreſſes the embarraſſment which he feels in anſwering Mr. Schlegel's work, from the looſe and indefinite ſtatements contained in it, and "the difficulty of underſtanding what are the real repreſentations in matter of hiſtory, and the preciſe poſitions in point of law, by which he means ſeriouſly to abide."

The particular caſe of the Swediſh convoy, Dr. C. declines to conſider minutely; as it is ſtill depending (on an appeal) before the ſupreme court of the law of nations in this country. What he chiefly conſiders is the general principles on the ſub-

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ject of capture which Mr. Schlegel has introduced: and here he declares his aſtoniſhment, that "any partial or occaſional intereſt of any particular country ſhould have induced a Profeſſor of Univerſal Law, and a Judge of a Supreme Court, to maintain in the face of Europe poſitions which he himſelf, and every man in it, cannot but know to be contradictory to all acknowledged authority, as well as all rational principle, upon the ſubject."

Of this kind he denominates the aſſertions of Mr. S. that "it is contrary to the law of nations to ſeize and confiſcate property belonging to the individual ſubjects of the enemy," "to employ ſhips of war in capture," and, thirdly, "to ſeize the goods of enemies on board of neutral veſſels."

On the firſt of theſe poſitions, Mr. S. having contended, that "war is carried on between government and government, and not between private individuals, whoſe property therefore ought not to ſuffer," Dr. Croke aſks,

"Is there a principle more univerſal than that all the members of a ſtate are anſwerable for the injuſtice of the government to which they belong, whoſe acts are, in all legal and political conſideration their acts? It has been reſerved to the miſchievous policy of the French Republic to ſeparate the governed from the governors, and to attempt a diſtinction in their conſideration and treatment of them. But ſurely it is the moſt elementary of all principles, that every individual is bound by the acts of his government to foreign ſtates: every ſubject of a ſtate at war is, by the univerſal policy of all law, an alien enemy to every ſubject of the hoſtile ſtate, and in all legal conſideration is ſo treated. It is very true that nations at war do, for their own convenience in keeping in their own hands the direction of the public force, uſually diſcourage their ſubjects, not ſpecifically authoriſed by themſelves, from engaging in acts of hoſtility; it is likewiſe true that motives of private humanity and courteſy do, in a variety of caſes, prevent the exerciſe of the moſt indubitable hoſtile rights. But every man, whoſe mind is tinctured with the firſt principles either of general law, or of the inſtitutes of particular countries, knows extremely well that theſe are mere relaxations and exceptions ariſing out of other cauſes, which do not conſtitute the law, but prove the contrary tenor of the law by the very circumſtance of their being relaxations and exceptions. I venture to aſſume, as a principle placed beyond the reach of all contradiction, that war is waged not between government and government, but between nation and nation, and the individuals of each; and that to prove this by authorities, would merely be to tranſcribe every book that has been compoſed upon the ſubject." P. 15.

The next poſition demonſtrated by Dr. Croke, and indeed reſulting from the former, is, "that the property of individuals is legally anſwerable for the injuſtice of their government." There ſeems not indeed, as he obſerves, to be any authority, except that of Mr. Schlegel, which queſtions it.

In the third place, Dr. Croke inſiſts that "the rights of war externally againſt the public enemy (in which are included all his individuals) are naturally and originally unlimited."

"The practice of mankind," he admits, "influenced by conſiderations of humanity and convenience, has agreed in confining the operations of war within certain modified bounds, and that limitation is to be reſpected in the common exerciſe of hoſtility."

Suppoſing therefore it were true, "that the practice of land-war had abſtained from the capture of private property," what effect would that have upon maritime capture, which is admitted to have been uninterrupted? He then ſhows, that treaties between particular ſtates are "the conventional law of thoſe between whom they ſubſiſt;" but that "the conventional law of nations ſtands upon different grounds, and is to be found in the legal practice of all ſtates not ſpecially tied up by treaties upon that particular ſubject." But, laſtly, he ſhows how untrue the aſſertion is, that private property is actually protected from land capture, and (beſides that the pillage of towns, and the ſeizure of booty, have always been deemed lawful exerciſes of the right of war) and "what," he aſks, "is the practice of exacting contributions, but a moderated and ſtipulated exerciſe of the ſame right, which preſuppoſes its exiſtence?"

He afterwards explains the reaſon why greater indulgence has been granted to private property in a land than in a maritime war, and proves the right of ſeizing the property of individual members of a hoſtile ſtate by the authority of every writer on the law of nations, whoſe opinions the world has been accuſtomed to reſpect.

The ſtrange and novel doctrine of Mr. Schlegel, that privateering, or rather maritime capture, is unlawful, Dr. Croke treats with the contempt ſuch a notion deſerves; but the aſſertion of the Daniſh Profeſſor, "that the property of an enemy cannot be touched when on board the ſhip of a neutral," being more material to the queſtion, is combated at large. It had been admitted by Mr. S. that before, and at the time when the *Conſolato Del Mare* was compoſed, the law ſtood as aſſerted by Great Britain. The point contended by him is, that it has been altered ſince; and it is alledged that, "ſince that period, the writers on the law of nations have unanimouſly allowed the juſtice of his opinion."

"If," ſays Dr. Croke, "this were a matter that depended on the unauthorized ſpeculations of private writers, it would be eaſy to meet this extravagant aſſertion by a direct contradiction, and by an appeal to the moſt reſpected authorities of that ſort in Europe."—"But," he adds, "is it the real opinion of Mr. Schlegel, a Profeſſor and Judge of the public law of Europe, that that law changes its courſe in conſequence

ſequence of every change of notion and ſpeculation in private individuals who may think fit to load the world with voluminous publications upon it?"—"As well," he obſerves, "might it be pretended, that the law of a particular country has actually undergone an alteration, becauſe a private ſubject of that country has publiſhed his opinion that ſuch an alteration is fit to be adopted."

He purſues this argument further, and (in our opinion) with great ſucceſs, remarking upon "the ſtrange and unaccountable miſtake of Mr. S. as to the conventional law of nations, which he ſuppoſes to take its riſe from particular treaties," and ſhowing that the Dutch, far from having effected the ſuppoſed alteration in the Law of Nations, "have uniformly, down to the preſent day, adminiſtered the maritime law upon the ſame principle as Great Britain, and with much leſs temper and moderation."

Doctor Croke next proceeds to inquire, whether the ſuppoſed alteration was effected by the armed neutrality in 1780. This period, he obſerves, "affords Mr. S. a ſhow and ſemblance of ſomething like an authority, which cannot well be claimed, either by the opinions of private modern writers, or by the particular proviſions of Dutch treaties."

"Are we then," ſays our Engliſh Advocate, "to underſtand, that if three or four nations, acting againſt their own moſt ſolemn and public obligations, take upon themſelves, by a ſpecial agreement, to alter the whole courſe of the political law of Europe, that this is a pretenſion the legality of which is not to be diſputed even by thoſe who are moſt ſeverely affected by the propoſed alteration? Is Mr. *Schlegel* prepared to admit, that if Great Britain, confeſſedly the greateſt maritime power in Europe, and two or three other confederate ſtates were to covenant with each other that the moſt momentous changes ſhould immediately take place in the public law of Europe, that all Europe is bound to reſpect their authority, and to take the law as they think fit to diſpenſe it to the world, in conſequence of their own ſeparate bargain? Is there nothing of inconvenience and injury in this? nothing of an unwarrantable aſſumption of ſupremacy amongſt coordinate and independent ſtates, alarming to the repoſe and liberty of Europe? Surely it can never be maintained that this is a legitimate exerciſe of power, which is to command the conſciences and underſtandings of the reſt of mankind. Can it be matter of reaſonable doubt that no ſuch pretenſion can be maintained without the moſt offenſive aggreſſion againſt the common liberties of Europe, and that the ſtate which rejects and reſiſts it is entitled to the common gratitude of every other ſtate in it? This would be the caſe, even if theſe contracting ſtates had ſtood firm to their engagements, and had contrived upon the proffered bribe of ſome occaſional advantage to engage the concurrence of ſome other ſtates of Europe: But, when the fact notoriouſly is, that this legiſlative combination of powers in the northern corner of Europe have abdicated their aſſumed functions,

and

and that they themſelves have ſince acted, in the conduct of their own wars, upon principles directly the reverſe of what their modern agreement purported; who can ſay that ſuch an agreement, ſo framed and ſo abandoned by the very powers which were parties to it, is entitled to be received with any other feelings than thoſe of deriſion on the part of other maritime ſtates, who only hear of it at a diſtance, but who nevertheleſs are expected to obey it?" P. 47.

Having further purſued this train of reaſoning, and exploded the conceit of Mr. Schlegel (which we have already noticed) that "a veſſel on the high ſeas is ſtill a part of the territory of the ſtate to whoſe ſubjects it belongs," the courſe of Dr. C.'s argument now leads him to the right of ſearch exerciſed by belligerent powers, and to the Profeſſor's aſſertion, that this right "has its origin in the poſitive ſtipulation of treaties, and is limited in all caſes in its exerciſe to the regulations preſcribed." In anſwer to this, Dr. Croke ſhows that it

"is immediately deducible from the principles of natural law,"—that "it has always been acknowledged by nations with whom no treaties exiſted,"—and that "in the treaties in which it is mentioned, it is referred to, as a known pre-exiſting general right, ſubject only to regulation. The only limitation," he obſerves, "in the mode of its exerciſe under the original law of nations, is the end for which it is allowed."

Under this head, Dr. Croke refutes the wild aſſertion of Mr. Schlegel,

"that a belligerent nation is not empowered by the rights of ſelf-defence to prevent the conveyance of noxious articles, and even weapons of war, for the uſe of the enemy, provided the neutral does this indifferently to both parties."

"What is the extent of the catalogue of contraband," Dr. C. does not undertake to diſcuſs, as a ſubject of great extent and minute detail; but he remarks that,

"ſince the wars of Europe, and particularly thoſe of maritime ſtates, have become principally naval, the materials for the equipment of hoſtile fleets are liable to be ſo conſidered, where not protected by particular conventions, or ſubjected to that moderated right, eſtabliſhed in favour of native produce, of pre-occupation, and pre-emption."

He then reprehends the unfounded calumnies admitted by the Profeſſor, on the practice of our Court of Admiralty.

"All," he obſerves, "that the Judge of the Admiralty has in this caſe done, has been to pronounce in effect, that the carrying naval ſtores with a poſſible deſtination to the public enemy, is a reaſonable ground of detention and inquiry."

The point next conſidered by Dr. Croke, is the pretenſion ſet up by Mr. Schlegel, "that the ſending of an armed ſhip with

with merchant ſhips, excludes all viſitation and ſearch." He examines the grounds upon which this is aſſerted, and referring to the proof already made, "that a general right of viſitation and ſearch exiſts under the natural law of nations," he calls upon Mr. Schlegel to ſhow

"where the exception which he ſuppoſes has any acknowledged exiſtence. The right of viſitation and ſearch is independent of all treaties, and anterior to them all, founded on the rights of belligerent nations admitted and acknowledged by neutrals. But ſuppoſing it to be otherwiſe, Mr. S. is deſired to ſhow in what treaty of Europe before the year 1780, which gave birth to the armed neutrality, this pretenſion is ever in the ſlighteſt manner introduced, although the general right of ſearch is noticed in almoſt every one of them, and admitted. It certainly," he adds, "is the duty of thoſe who maintain that the general rule is ſubject to exceptions, to prove the exiſtence of ſuch exceptions."

This argument is purſued at conſiderable length, and the ſeveral treaties, occurrences, and opinions, reſpecting the claim in queſtion, are fully diſcuſſed. The ineffiacy and fallacy of that pledge, which it is attempted to ſubſtitute for a ſearch, is alſo, in our opinion, very clearly evinced.

"Mr. *Schlegel*'s argument," it is obſerved, "goes little beyond this, "that as the papers themſelves make *full* proof, ſtill more will the declaration of the government ſignified by its officers have that effect." But the truth is, that the papers have no ſuch authority either in reaſon or practice. They are *primâ facie* evidence; and I venture to ſay, that no man who has had the practical oppoſtunity of conſidering them would think them entitled to be placed upon any higher footing. If theſe papers, ſworn before magiſtrates and officers of government, are often vitiated to ſuch a degree as to carry with them no ſuch deciding authority, upon what pretence is a formal declaration of the government founded upon them to be conſidered as deciſive? The government can know nothing of the fact of the property of the goods but from the declarations of its ſubjects—thoſe very ſame declarations upon which paſſports and certificates are formally granted, the falſehood and fallacy of which documents every day's experience demonſtrates. It is no reflection at all upon the governments that this is the caſe, becauſe they naturally enough take the ſworn atteſtations of parties. It is not to be expected, that, without any ſpecial intereſt in hunting out the real property of every parcel of goods, theſe governments are to take upon themſelves the painful proſecution of thoſe inquiries which the Courts of Admiralty with great difficulty purſue, into all that maſs of fraud and perjury, under which the commerce of neutrality is not unfrequently enveloped. Every man who has practiſed in thoſe courts knows, that all the ſagacity and knowledge of an experienced judge, aſſiſted by all the acuteneſs of advocates, and the eager diligence of intereſted captors, is in many inſtances no match at all for the artifices of ingenious diſhoneſty in thoſe ſubjects. Is this ſecurity (inſufficient as it very

very frequently is found) to be compulſorily exchanged for the ſuperficial inquiry of the neutral Cuſtom-houſe, which has an obvious intereſt in ſwelling its own exports, and no intereſt whatever in guarding againſt any poſſibility of abuſe? What is it to the Cuſtom-houſe of Gottenburg or Altona whether the rights of Britiſh captors are invaded? Mr. *Schlegel* talks much of the ſolemnity which is given to the declaration of neutrality by the attendance of a ſhip of war guaranteying the fact. I beg to aſk, What real effective authenticity is given by this attendance, independent of the number of guns which that armed ſhip may carry? The declaration of the government (ſuch as it is) is already given in the paſſes and certificates granted upon the affidavits of the individual. What is ſuperadded by the preſence of an armed ſhip to the evidence of this declaration? Its preſence proves no fact; it in no degree confirms the ſolemn certificates which the government has iſſued; it *can* in the reaſon of the thing import no more than that brute force is ready to ſupport thoſe certificates; and what does this add to the teſtimony? As far as the uſe of its means of inveſtigation is concerned, the paſſports and certificates have fully expreſſed it on the part of the neutral ſtate; and, if the daily experience of mankind has ſhown that theſe ſecurities are wholly inſufficient, let Mr. *Schlegel* point out what acceſſion is made to their credibility by the preſence of thirty-ſix guns, and a crew of a hundred and twenty mariners?" P. 97.

The writer proceeds to ſhow, that if the mode ſuggeſted has as little foundation in reaſon and nature, as it has in any received notions of law and practice, the peace of the world will be far from promoted by it. The inconvenience, ſo loudly complained of in the preſent mode, is only, he obſerves, that a neutral ſhip with a neutral cargo may be brought into port for inquiry; and, "if it appears that ſhe is improperly brought in, ſhe is liberated with coſts and damages." On the other hand, the conſequence of this pretenſion (of the northern powers) if admitted, will be "neither more nor leſs than a total abolition of maritime capture in war." Some anecdotes are added, which ſtrongly ſhow how little dependance can be placed on the aſſurances given by commanders of neutral convoys, and what conſequences would follow the admiſſion of ſuch a claim. Striking inſtances are added of the partial conduct of *one* at leaſt of the northern powers during the preſent war.

The laſt material queſtion is on "the nature and quantum of the penalty for the refuſal to ſubmit to ſearch." On this topic Dr. Croke profeſſes only to diſcuſs general principles, as the particular caſe is under appeal before the proper tribunal. On this ſubject he lays down the following poſitions:

"That if it be the duty of neutrals to ſubmit to ſearch, the direct violation of that duty is ſubject to *ſome* penalty; and thoſe who deny that

that confiſcation is the *proper* penalty, are bound to point out the other penalty to which it is legally ſubject. The penalty muſt be a *real* penalty, acting *as ſuch*, and in ſome degree adequate to the effectual prevention of the recurrence of the miſchief.—The mere compelling the offending parties to ſubmit to ſearch is no penalty; for that is no more than what would have been enforced as the ordinary exerciſe of the right, if no ſuch reſiſtance had been attempted.—If violence is to be diſcouraged and prevented, it is not an unnatural or an illegal mode of doing it by the forfeiture of that property, which the violence was employed to ſcreen from reaſonable inquiry—Againſt him who refuſes to ſubmit to juſt inquiry, lawfully made, every thing is to be preſumed.—It is juſtly to be preſumed that the property is enemy's property, if the party in poſſeſſion of it refuſes to ſatisfy thoſe who have a right to be ſatisfied whether it is ſo or not." P. 110.

Theſe abſtract principles, he further ſtates, are conformable to the practice of nations, and the opinions of the moſt correct writers upon thoſe ſubjects. Mr. Schlegel's attempts to elude thoſe authorities are next very clearly and ably expoſed. The remainder of this treatiſe contains remarks upon ſome ſubordinate paſſages in Mr. Schlegel's work, which the author did not chooſe to leave wholly unnoticed; and it concludes with a general and ſpirited vindication of the conduct and motives of Great Britain.

In the preceding ſtatement, we have endeavoured to give our readers a full, a comprehenſive, and, we truſt, a fair and impartial view of this important controverſy; and we indulge a confident hope, that the cauſe of our country will appear to the whole world to have been ſupported, not only by ſpirit and valour, but by reaſon, juſtice, and ſound argument.

ART. XII. *A Poetical Epiſtle to Sir George Beaumont, Bart. on the Encouragement of the Britiſh School of Painting. By William Sotheby, Eſq. F. R. S. and A. S. S.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Wright. 1801.

IT is unneceſſary to ſay any thing on the ſubject of Mr. Sotheby's poetical abilities, to which our pages have again and again borne honourable teſtimony. We are informed in the Preface, that the preſent poem was occaſioned by a plan originally ſuggeſted by Sir George Beaumont, of exhibiting ſuch pictures of Engliſh maſters, upon which time and the public voice had conferred diſtinguiſhed approbation.

The

The author begins with contraſting his own reſidence in Epping Foreſt with that of his friend, to whom he writes in the neighbourhood of Conway Caſtle. He then traces the origin and progreſs of art, and introduces, very happily and forcibly, a compliment to the modern heroes of his native country, and enquires why alſo Britain may not produce the moſt exalted maſters in the arts, as ſhe has evidently done in virtue, valour, and genius? Juſt compliments are next introduced to Hogarth, Wilſon, Wright, Gainſborough, Reynolds, &c. What is ſaid of the laſt is very energetic.

" Hail! guide and glory of the Britiſh School,
Whoſe magic line gave life to every rule.
Reynolds! thy portraits, true to nature, glow'd,
Yet o'er the whole ideal graces flow'd;
While forth to fight the living likeneſs came,
Souls touch'd by genius, felt thy higher aim:
Here, where the public gaze a Siddons views,
See fear and pity crown the Tragic Muſe:
There, girt with flames, where Calpe gleams afar,
In dauntleſs Heathfield hail the God of War.
Painter of grace! love gave to thee alone
Corregio's melting line with Titian's tone,
Bade *beauty* wear all forms that breathe delight,
And a new charm in each enchant the ſight:
Here, a wild Thais, wave the blazing brand,
There yield her zone to Cupid's treacherous hand,
An Empreſs, melt the pearl in Egypt's bowl,
Or, a ſly Gipſey, read the tell-tale ſoul.
Painter of paſſion! horror on thy view
Pour'd the wild ſcenes that daring Shakeſpeare drew,
When the fiend ſcowl'd on Beaufort's bed of death,
And each weird Hag 'mid lightnings hail'd Macbeth.
Thee, Dante led to famine's murky cave:
" Round yon mute father hear his children rave;
Behold them ſtretch'd beneath his ſtony eye,
Drop one by one, and gaze on him, and die;
So ſtrain each ſtarting ball in ſightleſs ſtare,
And each grim feature fix in ſtern deſpair."
No earth-born giant ſtruggling into ſize,
Stretch'd in thy canvass, ſprawls before our eyes,
The mind applies its ſtandard to the ſcene,
Notes, with mute awe, the more than mortal mien,
Where boundleſs genius, brooding o'er the whole,
Stamps e'en on babes ſublimity of ſoul.
Whether, where terror crowns Jove's infant brow,
Before the Godhead aw'd Olympus bow;
Or, in yon babe, Herculean ſtrength upholds
Th' enormous ſnakes, and ſlacks their length'ning folds;

Or

Or while, from heav'n celeſtial Grace deſcends,
Meek on his knees the infant Samuel bends,
Lifts his claſp'd hands, and, as he glows in pray'r,
Fixes, in awful trance, his eye on air." P. 21.

The part of this elegant poem which made the deepeſt impreſſion upon us is the following, where the poet, in a powerful and manly ſtrain, declares his apprehenſions, not of the power and bravery, or attacks of our Gallic enemy, but of her deluſions in the form of luxury, and of her philoſophy.

" I dread not Gallia's deſolating pow'rs,
" No hoſtile foot ſhall bruiſe our native flow'rs."
I dread her not, ſtern foe array'd in arms;
I dread the Syren deck'd in magic charms;
I dread her crown'd enchantreſs of the heart,
And hail'd by Europe, arbitreſs of art.
The feaſt is ſpread in proud theatric ſtate,
Th' invited nations at her portal wait.
Tranſported gueſts! the golden gates expand,
The ſhout of rapture burſts from land to land.
Zephyrs, whoſe roſeate wings ſoft dews diſtil,
The air around with ſweets Sabean fill:
Banners where rainbow colours richly play,
Catch the ſoft gale, and ſtream a fairer day.
Above, below, around, the viewleſs choir
Wake the ſoft flute, and ſweep th' accordant lyre,
And, at each tuneful ſtop, from nymphs unſeen,
Symphonious voices ſwell the pauſe between.
Others, by beauty moulded, move in ſight,
And every ſenſe by every charm delight,
With flowing locks, looſe robe, and boſom bare,
Melt in the dance, that floats upon the air.
Th' enchantreſs ſmiles, her hands a goblet hold,
On Hebe's boſom Cupid wrought the mould:
Th' enchantreſs ſmiles, and mingles in the bowl
Drops of Circean juice, that drug the ſoul.
Ah, woe for Britain! if her youthful train
Deſert their country for the banks of Seine!
Ah, woe for Britain! if inſidious Gaul
Th' attracted artiſt to her trophies call.
Here Vice, ſlow ſtealing on with ſecret fear,
Chain'd by ſtern Juſtice, ſtops in mid career;
Rous'd at the public eye's indignant flame,
Here conſcience burns upon the cheek of ſhame;
And Penitence, that ſighs to be forgiv'n,
Still holds her faith in God, her hope in Heav'n.
By Gallia train'd to meretricious charms,
Art ſhall extend the triumph of her arms,
And iſſue forth, fit inſtrument deſign'd
To ſpread her empire, and corrupt the mind." P. 24.

The

The poem concludes with a moſt animated apoſtrophe, in which it is declared, that the realm muſt ſtand or fall, as linked with the arts.

" Beaumont! (the Arts thus ſpeak) oh urge thy aim:
Trade, freedom, virtue, vindicate our claim"—

and in which the moſt exalted, but not more exalted than deſerved, tribute of admiration is paid to the Sovereign.

" And thou! whoſe firmneſs ſtill'd a nation's fear,
Whoſe holy ſmile repreſs'd the general tear,
When frenzy, aiming the aſſaſſin blow,
Smote every boſom with domeſtic woe;
Patron of Commerce! who, from pole to pole,
Bad'ſt Cook explore where utmoſt oceans roll;
Patron of Science! who, from height to height,
Bad'ſt Herſchel ſoar, and claim new worlds of light;
Patron of Arts! whoſe ſtately dome beneath,
Fame binds her votary's brow with annual wreath:
Still foſter Genius with paternal hand,
Point his high courſe, and all his pow'rs expand!" P. 29.

We have been highly gratified by the peruſal of this ſpirited compoſition, and earneſtly recommend it to all lovers of true poetry and the fine arts. There is one ſmall overſight, which we are ſurpriſed ſhould have eſcaped ſo accurate a writer of verſe as the tranſlator of the Georgics; at p. 13, *world* is made the rhyme of two couplets, immediately following each other. But this, which ſeems almoſt the only defect, is of little importance.

BRITISH CATALOGUE.

POETRY.

ART. 13. *Remonſtrance, with other Poems. By Catherine Hood.* 12mo. 3s. Longman and Rees. 1801.

There is a neatneſs and ſimplicity in theſe Poems which entitle them to praiſe, although they may not pretend to any ſuperior vigour, or diſtinction of original genius. The following is at leaſt well rendered.

" *The Clock and the Dial. From De la Motte.*

I.

It happen'd on a cloudy morn
A ſelf-conceited Clock, in ſcorn

A Dial thus beſpoke:
" My learned friend, if in thy pow'r,
Tell me exactly what's the hour;
I am upon the ſtroke."

II.

The modeſt Dial thus reply'd:
" That point I cannot now decide,
The ſun is hid in ſhade;
My information drawn from him,
I wait till his enlightening beam
Shall be again diſplay'd."

III.

" Wait for him then," return'd the Clock,
" I am not that dependant block,
His counſel to implore;
One winding ſerves me for a week,
And, harken! how the truth I ſpeak,
Ding, ding, ding, ding, juſt four."

IV.

While thus the boaſter was deriding,
And magiſterially deciding,
A ſun-beam, clear and ſtrong,
Show'd, on the line, three quarters more;
And that the Clock in ſtriking four,
Had told his ſtory wrong.

V.

On this, the Dial calmly ſaid,
(More prompt t'adviſe than to upbraid)
" Friend, go be regulated;
Thou anſwer'ſt without heſitation;
But he who truſts thy calculation,
Will frequently be cheated.

VI.

Obſerve my practice, ſhun pretence,
Not confidence, but evidence,
An anſwer meet ſupplies;
Bluſh not to ſay, " I cannot tell;"
Not ſpeaking much, but ſpeaking well,
Denote the truly wiſe."

ART. 14. *The Vernal Walk. A Poem.* 8vo. 1s. Croſby and Letterman. 1801.

This is probably the compoſition of a young writer; but there is evidently much vigour of intellect, extenſive obſervation on the ſcenes of nature, and a degree of taſte, which wants only the pruning of a maturer judgment. Severer critics might call the language often turgid, and the ſentiments often too expanded; but we willingly make allowances for the fervour of youthful imagination.

ART. 15. *Signs of the Times, a Poem, or the Downfal of the Pope and the Papal Hierarchy, with Obſervations on Six Hundred Sixty-Six, the Number of the Roman Beaſt; alſo a Contraſt between the Numbers Six and Seven. By William Scott.* 8vo. 6d. Croſby and Letterman. 1800.

What could poſſibly induce this ſeemingly well-meaning man to fancy himſelf a poet? Texts of Scripture forced into rhyme, of which the object is explained in the four following lines, which will ſerve as a ſpecimen.

"Frenchmen fulfil your atheiſtic cup,
For this ſame purpoſe God hath rais'd you up,
That Pope and Popery may be overthrown,
God's fervent wrath by you on them pour'd down."

ART. 16. *The Sweets of Society, a Poem; and a few Miſcellaneous Poems. By the Author of Melody the Soul of Muſic, an Eſſay.* 12mo. Braſh, Glaſgow. 1801.

Why ſhould we be obliged to quote ſuch lines as theſe?

"Oft will the hand of memory retrace,
In lively features, Cowan's funny face;
Attun'd to laughter and the jeering joke,
Which he with air demure would ſlyly cloke.
When wander'd we around the ſkating pool,
This child of Momus playing the waggiſh fool;
Oft I've regretted that our ſport was done,
Peace to thy memory thou ſoul of fun."

Playing the fool is a phraſe of moſt ſignificant and extenſive import; for, alas! ſome play the fool with themſelves, ſome with the public, and not a few with paper and critics.

ART. 17. *Bardomachia Poema Macaronico-Latinum.* 4to. 14 pp. 1s. Johnſon. 1800.

ART. 18. *Bardomachia; or, the Battle of the Bards. Tranſlated from the original Latin.* 4to. 16 pp. 1s. Johnſon. 1800.

If any perſon ſhould have a curioſity to ſee, what the moſt miſerable depravation of the human intellect can poſſibly produce moſt dull, under the vain imagination of being witty, let him look at this macaronic Poem; and ſince, as Boileau truly ſays,

Un ſot a toujours un plus ſot qui l'admire, the wiſe tranſlator who follows, "was ſo *amuſed* with its humour, that, through the medium of his bookſeller, he obtained the author's permiſſion to give it an Engliſh dreſs."—Et cantare pares.

To exclude all poſſibility of its having merit or utility, in any ſhape whatever, this nonſenſe contains, as a narrative, not one particle of truth. The beaten Peter is made the conqueror; and every ſtep of the tranſaction, between him and an antagoniſt whom he ſhould be proud of having rouſed to notice him at all, is completely falſified.

Theſe wiſe authors too, like Peter himſelf, confound Mr. W. Gifford with the reputed editor of the Anti-Jacobin Magazine. Thus the one ſays,

Noſtronem ſex magna volumina MAGAZINORUM;

and the other,

Six volumes of *our* ANTI-JACOBINE.

It is not improbable, after all, that the author and the tranſlator are the ſame perſon,

None but himſelf could be his parallel!

DRAMATIC.

ART. 19. *Julian and Agnes; or, the Monks of the Great St. Bernard. A Tragedy, in Five Acts, as it was performed at the Theatre-Royal, Drury-Lane.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Wright. 1801.

It is well known that this Tragedy is the production of Mr. Sotheby's pen, and it is no leſs ſo that, notwithſtanding it poſſeſſes much fine and animated writing, intereſting character, and ſtriking incidents, it did not ſucceed on repreſentation. The objections ſeem to have been of two kinds; that the whole is made to depend on one character alone, which is that of Julian, and which was moſt admirably acted by Mr. Kemble, and that there is a degree of refinement among us, which revolts at the idea of introducing two wives upon the ſtage. It is certain that all the fine declamation, pathos, and theatrical exertion of Mrs. Siddons, did not avail. The alterations after the firſt night were exceedingly judicious; and the drama will be preſerved as an agreeable companion in the cloſet, by all who are anxious to poſſeſs the beſt poetical productions of the day.

ART. 20. *The Surrender of Calais. An Hiſtorical Drama.* 8vo. 2s. Croſby and Letterman. 1801.

It does not appear that this piece has been repreſented on the ſtage; but we ſee no reaſon why it might not expect ſucceſs. The ſtory indeed is become trite; but ſtill it can never fail to excite intereſt and emotion. The language is unexceptionably good, the ſpeeches are perhaps ſometimes too long; the characters, however, of the Governor, of Euſtace St. Pierre, and in particular of Euſtaſia, are well ſupported. We think it, on the whole, highly creditable to the author.

ART. 21. *Virginia; or, the Fall of the Decemvirs. A Tragedy. By John Bidlake, B. A. Chaplain to his Royal Highneſs the Duke of Clarence, and Maſter of the Grammar School, Plymouth.* 12mo. 1s. 6d. Murray. 1801.

This Tragedy was performed by the author's pupils in the theatre at Plymouth, and the audience were pleaſed to approve and ſolicit its publication. Mr. Bidlake has often been praiſed by us for his poetical exertions;

exertions; and this celebrated ſtory in the Roman hiſtory is told with great ſpirit and ingenuity. The character of Julius is well drawn, and his ſpeech over the dead body of Virginia highly poetical.

NOVELS.

ART. 22. *Belinda. By Maria Edgworth. Three Volumes.* 8vo. 1l. 1s. Johnſon. 1801.

The author of this production has obtained ſome degree of reputation from her Treatiſe on Education, and from the tale of *Caſtle Rackrent*, ſo much, that we expected to ſee her powers exerciſed with effect in a general repreſentation of life and manners. We confeſs that we have, in ſome degree, been diſappointed; for although we readily allow this to be ſuperior to the common run of works of this kind, yet there does not appear to be the vivacity of deſcription, the ſucceſsful delineation of living manners, the contrivance with reſpect to plot, or the ingenuity with reſpect to the cataſtrophe, which the name prefixed appeared to promiſe. The cataſtrophe is indeed ridiculous, and the character of Virginia ſeems in its final ending to outrage all probability.

ART. 23. *She lives in Hopes, or Caroline; founded upon Facts. By Miſs Hatfield, of Mancheſter. By Permiſſion, dedicated to her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs of Orange and Naſſau. In Two Volumes.* 8vo. 9s. Vernor and Hood. 1801.

This is by no means an ill-written performance; but we are ſorry to hear that the narrative is founded on facts, as we are obliged to toil through a deſcription of vice in its moſt odious enormities. Caroline is well drawn; but ſurely Miſs Milbank and Mrs. Malin muſt be highly exaggerated, beyond any thing which common life exhibits. After all, we wiſh that young ladies who ſeem to have ſuch reſpectable talents as theſe of Miſs Hatfield, would find ſome other ſubject for their exerciſe than ſuch performances as the preſent, which if they do no injury, certainly render no benefit to the cauſe, either of ſcience or of morals.

MEDICINE.

ART. 24. *An Eſſay on Phlegmatia Dolens, including an Account of the Symptoms, Cauſes, and Cure of Peritonitis, Puerperalis, and Conjunctiva, &c. By John Hull, M. D.* 8vo. 368 pp. 6s. 6d. Bickerſtaff. 1800.

The author, having affixed a new name to the diſeaſe, forming the principal ſubject of the Eſſay, very properly commences with giving its deſcription.

"Phlegmatia dolens," he ſays, "is a diſeaſe almoſt excluſively obſerved in lying-in women. It conſiſts in a tenſe, hot, painful, and elaſtic ſwelling, generally extending rapidly over the whole of one of the lower extremities; the ſkin retaining its natural colour, or even becoming whiter, and preſenting more or leſs of a ſhining appearance.

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It has, in a few inſtances," he adds, " terminated fatally; has been frequently attended with alarming febrile ſymptoms, and has always been productive of lameneſs, and conſiderable inconvenience." P. 1.

Although there is reaſon to believe the diſeaſe has exiſted in all ages, yet little notice of it has been taken by the ancient medical writers. This is conſidered by the preſent author (p. 6) as a proof of their inattention, and of their being but little entitled to the veneration with which they are treated; but it may, with more propriety, be aſcribed to the variety of the diſeaſe, and to the cuſtom of the times, which did not admit the phyſician to enter the lying-in room but in caſes of extreme exigency. Hence their ignorance in the practical part of midwifery, and the uncouth and barbarous methods by which they attempt to remedy any wrong preſentation of the fœtus, which a modern practitioner effects with eaſe and ſafety.

The firſt part of the Eſſay contains *the literary Hiſtory of the Diſeaſe*, beginning with the account given of it by Rodrigues a Caſtro, whoſe work, *De Univerſa Mulierum Morborum Medicina*, was publiſhed in the year 1603, and continuing it to the preſent time. Under this head the author gives analyſes and critical remarks on the opinions of the ſeveral writers mentioned, with large extracts from ſuch of their works as ſeemed moſt intereſting. This part may be read with advantage, by thoſe practitioners who have not an opportunity of conſulting the originals. In the courſe of his obſervations, the author combats the opinions of all former writers on the ſubject, as to the nature and cauſe of the diſeaſe, which he thinks (ſee p. 204) conſiſts in " an inflammatory affection, producing ſuddenly a conſiderable effuſion of reſum and coagulable lymph, from the exhalants into the cellular membrane of the limb:" and that it only differs from peritonites, in its ſeat or part affected (p. 235). Mr. White attributed this ſudden effuſion of lymph to the burſting of a lymphatic veſſel, but does not admit any marked ſimilarity between " this ſwelling of one or both the lower extremities," conſequent on parturition (the title he gave to his Inquiry on the ſubject, publiſhed in the year 1784) and peritonitis, or puerperal fever. But however oppoſite the opinions of theſe writers may be as to the nature of the diſeaſe, the methods of cure recommended by them are not materially different. In an Appendix to the Inquiry, juſt publiſhed by Mr. White, and which will be noticed in a future number of our Review, this and other points of doctrine contained in this Eſſay are examined; we ſhall therefore defer giving an opinion on the ſubject until that work comes before us.

ART. 25. *A practical Eſſay on the Art of recovering ſuſpended Animation; together with a Review of the moſt proper and effectual Means to be adopted in Caſes of imminent Danger. Tranſlated from the German of Chriſtian Auguſtus Struve, M. D.* 12mo. 210 pp. 3s. 6d. Murray and Highley. 1801.

This Eſſay contains a regular and ſyſtematic account of the rationale of the ſeveral modes of practice that have been recommended in reſtoring ſuſpended animation, and has received, we underſtand, the approbation of the Royal Humane Society in London, who have complimented the author with making him one of their honorary members.

DIVINITY.

DIVINITY.

ART. 26. *Advice to a Miniſter of the Goſpel in the United Kingdom of England and Ireland. Being a Continuation of Advice to a Student in the Univerſity. To which is added, a Sermon on the Paſtoral Care. By John Napleton, D. D. Canon Reſidentiary of Hereford, Chancellor of the Dioceſe, and Chaplain to the Lord Biſhop of Hereford.* 8vo. 111 pp. 2s. 6d. Hereford printed; ſold by Sael, 192, Strand. 1801.

The former part of this excellent deſign received its juſt and proper tribute of applauſe in our ſixth volume, p. 255. We receive the ſequel with ſimilar feelings of regard for the author, and reſpect for his deſign, which examination proves to be ſo completed as fully to juſtify our expectation. The chapters in this part are ſeven: 1 and 2, on the Duties of an Incumbent; 3, on his Studies; 4, the Office of an Archdeacon; 5, the Office of a Dean and Chapter; 6, the Office of a Chancellor of a Dioceſe; 7, the Epiſcopal Office.

The directions given, and obſervations made, under each of theſe diviſions, are dictated by ſound and unaſſuming piety, and expreſſed with perſpicuity and energy. They are not amplified by any arts of expanſion, or any oſtentatious flouriſhes; but are calculated for real uſe, and while they direct the underſtanding captivate the will. The Sermon on the Paſtoral Care, which was preached at the conſecration of the preſent Biſhop of Chicheſter, was publiſhed then by command of the Archbiſhop, and was noticed, with due praiſe, in our thirteenth volume, p. 78. On recurring to it now, we feel a ſtrong inclination to produce a ſecond paſſage, in addition to what we cited then. "It has pleaſed God," ſays Dr. N. "in his ſingular and abundant goodneſs to this realm of England, to continue among us, throughout the reformation of our religion, the ſubſequent convulſions of the ſtate, and the final ſettlement of our civil conſtitution, this primitive adminiſtration of the Chriſtian church. Some Chriſtian communities within that period, in ſhaking off the uſurpations of an erring church, have loſt her genuine conſtitution: as, in flying from the abuſes of a regal government, they have foregone the benefits of it. We have preſerved our monarchy and epiſcopacy together; each refined from every tendency to evil, and retaining only the bleſſed prerogative of doing good. We diſpraiſe not the fortunes or the choice of others; we commend our own: and we pray God to protect them inviolate, amid the decay of piety, the frenzy of innovation, and the fall of empires." P. 108.

This paſſage, which is more eaſily ſeparated from its context, than moſt of thoſe contained in the "Advice," will explain to every reader the ſpirit in which the whole is written, and the propriety with which a divine ſo qualified has undertaken to inſtruct the ſtudents and profeſſors of theology.

ART.

ART. 27. *A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of St. Alban's, at the Viſitation held June 5, A. D.* 1800. *By Joſeph Holden Pott, A. M. Prebendary of Lincoln, and Archdeacon of St. Alban's. Publiſhed at the Requeſt of the Clergy preſent.* 4to. 26 pp. 1s. 6d. Rivingtons. 1800.

We have read with pleaſure and inſtruction ſeveral charges and diſcourſes of this very exemplary divine. In the preſent, we admire particularly the candour and the temper, united with the ſoundeſt judgment, with which he views the principles of thoſe who diſſent from our eſtabliſhment, and defends our own inſtitutions and practice. A Sermon preached by the Archdeacon, and printed at the ſame time with this Charge, will probably afford us an occaſion to expatiate more upon the topics of it. For the preſent, therefore, we content ourſelves with this ſhort notice of a very meritorious compoſition.

ART. 28. *An Analyſis of the Holy Bible, containing the Whole of the Old and New Teſtaments: collected and arranged ſyſtematically, in Thirty Books; each Book being divided into Chapters, and every Chapter ſubdivided into Sections, whereby the diſperſed Rays of Truth are concentrated, and every Scriptural Subject defined and fully exhibited. By Matthew Talbot.* 4to. About 904 pp. 1l. 4s. Leeds printed; for T. Conder, Bucklerſbury. 1800.

Among the uſeful and inſtructive works which induſtry, ſtimulated by ſincere piety, has offered to the ſtudent in religion, this deſerves to be conſpicuous. A general arrangement, clear, and very judicious, has been branched out, with wonderful attention, in ſuch a manner as to conſtitute the completeſt *common-place book of the Bible* that hitherto has been attempted. The books appear but few in number, for the quantity of matter that required to be digeſted in them; but the chapters ſo expand theſe ſubjects, and the ſections ſo diſtinguiſh the ſubordinate parts, that nothing ſeems to be wanting, for correctneſs and convenience: the words of Scripture, with the exact reference to every place, being always printed at full length. Thus the books, as ſpecified in the title, are thirty: but the chapters amount to 285, and the ſections to no leſs than 4144. Subjoined is a liſt of all the chapters, and an alphabetical index of them. To explain the method more exactly (method being in ſuch a work the moſt important point) we will take the firſt book, and firſt chapter of that book, as our examples. Book the firſt has for its general ſubject DEITY. The chapters, into which it is divided, are nine. 1. Natural Attributes of God. 2. Negative ditto. 3. Moral ditto. 4. Miſcellaneous ditto. 5. Offices or Characters. 6. Names and Similies. 7. Metaphors. 8. One God, three Perſons. 9. Blaſphemous or diſreſpectful Words of God. Of theſe chapters, the firſt contains fifteen ſections. Namely, 1. Spirituality. 2. Eternity. 3. Inferences from ditto. 4. Infinity. 5. Omnipreſence. 6. Omnipotence. 7. Power. 8. Greatneſs. 9. Omniſcience. 10. Wiſdom. 11. Foreknowledge. 12. Knows Thoughts. 13. Knows Actions. 14. Knows Words. 15. Felicity of God.

We

We are happy to add, that all this care and acuteneſs are exerted in the ſervice of a truly ſound divinity; and that the completeſt ſcriptural proofs of every important article may be found in theſe diviſions.

ART. 29. *A Sermon, preached in the Chapel of the Foundling Hoſpital, on Sunday the 25th of January,* 1801. *By the Rev. H. B. Wilſon, A. M. Curate of St. Michael's, Baſſiſhaw, Lecturer of the united Pariſhes of St. Antholin and St. John the Baptiſt, and Under-Maſter of Merchant Taylors' School.* 8vo. 18 pp. 1s. Cadell and Davies. 1801.

From a ſhort addreſs to the Governors of the Foundling Charity, prefixed to this diſcourſe, it appears to have been delivered with a view to the office of a preacher to that reſpectable inſtitution. It is written with much feeling and judgment, on the very appropriate text, "When my father and my mother forſake me, the Lord taketh me up." *Pſalm* xxvii, 12. We ſhall not, any more than the author, attempt to diſpute "the juſtice of the criterion by which the Governors regulated their choice;" but it will appear to any candid reader, that a fair claim to their approbation was preferred by Mr. Wilſon, in pronouncing this diſcourſe for the benefit of their Charity.

ART. 30. *A Sermon, preached at Dartford, at the Viſitation of the Right Reverend the Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter, on Tueſday, September* 30, 1800. *By George Robſon, A. M. Rector of Swadland in Kent, and Domeſtic Chaplain to the Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter. Publiſhed by his Lordſhip's Command.* 4to. 23 pp. 1s. Robſon. 1800.

The text of this diſcourſe is Acts xiv, part of v. 15, "We alſo are men of like paſſions with you:" and the exordium is a paraphraſe of the text and the context. The preacher then aſſerts, that theſe "are times when popular clamour is raiſed againſt the clerical character; as it is againſt every thing which truth has ſanctioned, and time has venerated. In the clergy, the ſlighteſt deviation from the moſt rigid rule of conduct is protruded for popular obſervation, and held up by the oppoſers of Chriſtianity as a *bugbear* to the prieſthood, and a reaſon for rejecting religious eſtabliſhments." P. 10. The word marked in italics is ſcarcely dignified enough for the pulpit, nor even rightly applied, if allowable. "The frailties attached to humanity," are apologized for in the preſent teachers of the goſpel, who live (among *us*) in familiar intercourſe with the reſt of mankind; and the boaſted perfections, or rather the negative virtues of the cell and the cloiſter, are diſclaimed. A miſconſtruction of ſome paſſages in St. Chryſoſtom, and in Biſhop Burnet, is thus rectified: "One of the fathers of the Greek church, profeſſedly writing on the prieſthood, and a dignitary of our own church, diſcourſing upon the paſtoral care, have, by ſome ſtrange miſconception of their texts, been made to apply to the *individual* and *perſonal* character of the prieſt, what was merely affirmed of him in relation to his office. It was not *perſonal* ſuperiority in the prieſt above the reſt of mankind, which theſe authors had in view, but it was the ſuperiority and excellence of *ſpiritual* over *ſecular* concerns—it was the *end* of the miniſterial office they ſought ſo highly

to exalt, endeavouring to lead mankind to the contemplation of things relating to eternity, in preference to ſecular and ſublunary concerns—ſteadfaſt and abounding with zeal for the religion they profeſſed, their object was to raiſe men's conceptions to thoſe exalted ideas of perfection, which were the end and object of the Chriſtian Revelation. They ſought not to eſtabliſh for the prieſthood a veneration for perſonal ſanctity, extending beyond the bound and abilities of human nature to ſupport." P. 12. The real dignity and duties of the miniſterial office are next ſhown to be marked out in Scripture, " by ſeveral characters and deſignations—as *labourers* in the vineyard, or the harveſt; as watchmen, as ſoldiers, as builders, and as ſtewards. Theſe are but figures and ſimilitudes to teach us induſtry, vigilance, courage, ſkill, and fidelity in our vocation. It is ſurely a fallacious way of reaſoning to build too much upon figurative diſcourſes; they will not anſwer in every particular circumſtance; and if they did, yet we can derive no particular diſtinctions from them, as they are but the common and ordinary occupations of life." P. 14. The ſimilitudes of *paſtors* and *ſhepherds* are then properly explained and modified. Some ſuitable admonitions are, laſtly, deduced to Chriſtians in general, and to the clergy in particular. The diſcourſe in general will be acceptable to candid readers; though we ſhould not be ſurprized if ſome of an oppoſite character were to cenſure it, as a vindication of the faults of the clergy.

ART. 31. *Conſiderations on the preſent State of Religion, ſpeculative and practical, in the Country.* 8vo. 2s. Hatchard. 1801.

This ſenſible and well-written pamphlet commences with an eulogium on our excellent Liturgy, which we agree with the author in pronouncing as approaching as nearly to perfection as is given to the works of man. He then proceeds to a diſcuſſion of the Thirty-nine Articles, or rather of certain of them, deſcants on the operation of irreligion and methodiſm, &c. We think him much too haſty, when he intimates the greater part of our churches in the metropolis are neglected. We have good reaſon for believing that this is far from being the fact. The ſecond chapter is more immediately on the Liturgy, in which the writer propoſes certain omiſſions and alterations. The third chapter is on the divine ſervice and preaching, and contains ſome good and ſeaſonable remarks on decorum of behaviour, and on the accompliſhments of a good preacher. Chapter the fourth is on oaths, or rather the abuſe of them, and has many pertinent obſervations. In the fifth chapter the writer laments, and with too much truth, that in large towns there is not an adequate number of churches to accommodate the poor. This pamphlet is evidently written by a perſon of great good ſenſe, and extenſive obſervation; and although, in ſome particulars, we may diſſent from his opinions, his publication deſerves attentive peruſal, and many of his ſuggeſtions might be adopted with advantage.

ART.

ART. 32. *The Chriſtian Preacher; or, Diſcourſes on Preaching, by ſeveral eminent Divines, Engliſh and foreign; reviſed and abridged, with an Appendix on the Choice of Books. By Edward Williams, D. D.* 12mo. 4s. 6d. Button. 1800.

This is the performance of a diſſenting clergyman, but bears evident marks of a candid and liberal mind. The moſt important and valuable part of the volume is the ſeventh diſcourſe, on the compoſition of a ſermon, tranſlated from the French of M. Claude by the late Mr. Robinſon of Cambridge, with an appendix, directing the proper choice of books for a Chriſtian preacher's library. He muſt, however, be both a diligent and wealthy man, who can either find, or purchaſe, the large catalogue ſpecified. Some books indeed, though deſirable by every enlightened reader, ſeem not immediately eſſential to a preacher's library; as, for example, Johnſon's Poets, 75 vols; Gibbon's Hiſtory; and Henry's Hiſtory of Great Britain: and, above all, Blackſtone's Commentaries, with Townſend's Guide to Health.

ART. 33. *The Power of Religion on the Mind in Retirement, Affliction, and at the Approach of Death, exemplified in the Teſtimonies and Experience of Perſons diſtinguiſhed by their Greatneſs, Learning, and Virtue. By Lindley Murray. The Tenth Edition, corrected and greatly enlarged.* 3s. 6d. Longman and Rees. 1801.

We have had frequent occaſion to ſpeak of the diligence, good ſenſe, and good intentions, of Mr. Murray; and we congratulate him ſincerely on the ſucceſs of this particular work. We announce this edition becauſe the alterations and additions are ſo conſiderable, that it is rendered almoſt a new work, the nature of which alterations is explained in the Advertiſement placed before the Table of Contents. Twenty-two characters have been added to the work, and much new biographical information is introduced. We do not remember any addition to the "Engliſh Reader," mentioned by Mr. Murray; but that work received, as it deſerved, our commendation.

ART. 34. *The Mercy of God eſpecially conſidered with reference to our preſent Situation. A Sermon, preached at St. Julian's, Shrewſbury, on Sunday, Sept. 14, 1800. By Samuel Butler, M. A. Head-Maſter of Shrewſbury-School, and late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.* 8vo. 24 pp. 1s. Eddowes, &c. Shrewſbury; Longman and Rees, London. 1800.

We ſuſpect that this diſcourſe was prior in publication to one, by the ſame author, which we noticed ſome months ago. (vol. xvii. p. 207). Such an inverſion of order is not according to our wiſh; but it will occaſionally happen. The preſent writer we well know to deſerve attention, and are therefore peculiarly deſirous that it ſhould be paid.

Having explained, in part, why ingratitude to God is more common, and leſs marked with infamy, than any other ſpecies of ingratitude, Mr. B. conſiders the peculiar mercies of Providence towards this nation

nation through the preſent war. In this part, much is very happily compreſſed into a very narrow ſpace. "To me I confeſs it appears," ſays this divine, "that ſince this country has been engaged in the conteſt with anarchy and atheiſm, the hand of Providence has been manifeſted more ſingularly in our preſervation, than in any period of equal duration, ſince the foundation of the Britiſh empire. Our diſtinguiſhed naval victories have been gained at periods when the very exiſtence of the country depended on our ſucceſs. The machinations of our inteſtine foes have been brought to light at the moſt critical periods, when a few more days would have given them ſtrength and energy, which the moſt vigorous efforts could with difficulty have reſiſted. The enemy has been repulſed from our ſhores, and the life of our beloved ſovereign has more than once been preſerved from the hand of the aſſaſſin: and our weakneſs has been turned into ſtrength, by a union with our ſiſter kingdom, at the very time when our enemies had hoped, by long-fomented diſcord, to ſeparate us for ever." P. 11. Reflections on the late viſitations of ſcarcity follow, with the moſt judicious rules for conduct on the ſubject. The whole is replete with ſound ſenſe and active piety.

LAW.

ART. 35. *The Spirit of Marine Law; or, Compendium of the Statutes relating to the Admiralty: being a conciſe, but perſpicuous Abridgment of all the Arts relative to Navigation; alphabetically arranged, and the Subſtance and References to the ſeveral Clauſes placed in the Margin. By John Irving Maxwell, of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, and late of the Royal Navy.* 8vo. 562 pp. 12s. T. C. Chapman, &c.

The title of this book, though rather fantaſtical, ſufficiently explains its object, and the plan upon which it is compoſed. It is ſtated in the Preface, that the firſt idea of this work originated with Mr. M'Arthur, author of a Treatiſe upon the ſubject of *Naval Courts Martial.* It was brought down by him to the end of the year 1792, and is continued by Mr. M. to the preſent period. Such a book may be of conſiderable utility to naval perſons, though to compoſe it requires little more than to pay proper attention to the abridgments and indexes of our ſtatutes. Mr. M. ſeems to have inſerted moſt of the ſtatutes relating to his ſubject; but he has not included all. Thus, under the title *Wandering Mariners or Soldiers,* he cites, after 39 Eliz. c. 17, the 17th Geo. II. c. 5. ſ. 3, by which it was enacted, that ſoldiers or mariners travelling with a paſs, are not to be deemed vagrants while they continue on their direct way, and during the limited time. But he omits to notice 32 Geo. III. c. 44, by which the power of granting ſuch paſſes is taken away, and every ſoldier or mariner wandering about and begging, is to be deemed a rogue and vagabond. Such an omiſſion would cauſe rather unfortunate conſequences to any individual who might be miſled by Mr. M.'s information.

POLITICS.

POLITICS.

ART. 36. *Conſiderations on the preſent State of Europe with reſpect to Peace, or a further Proſecution of the War.* 8vo. 80 pp. 3s. Debrett. 1801.

So variable are the political circumſtances of the preſent period, that a writer who ſpeculates upon them, will probably find important changes occur between the commencement and the concluſion of his work, and ſhould he, in compliance with ſuch changes, model it anew, ſome freſh alteration may render his ſentiments obſolete before he has publiſhed, or at leaſt before we can review them.

In the Introduction to this tract, on the ſtate of Europe, ſome important events are mentioned which have occurred ſince it was drawn up, particularly the peace between France and the Emperor, and the Northern Coalition againſt Great Britain. Theſe, the author obſerves, do not much affect his reaſonings, as they were foreſeen. But ſo ſpeedy a termination of the northern conteſt, and the ſtrong appearance of renewed warfare among the great continental powers, could not have been anticipated with ſo much confidence. The former renders the author's reaſonings on that ſubject no longer intereſting, and the latter might perhaps have varied the conditions of peace which he takes upon himſelf to delineate; at leaſt it may render the enemy more complying. This author's general principle, that "Great Britain, to keep her footing with France, muſt, as France extends her dominions, increaſe her colonial poſſeſſions, and foreign ſettlements," appears to us to be juſt; how far we ſhould agree with him in the detail, it is needleſs to mention, as the deciſion is in the hands of thoſe who alone are reſponſible to their country.

ART. 37. *An Argument againſt Extermination, occaſioned by Dr. Duigenan's Repreſentation of the preſent political State of Ireland. By a Friend to the United Kingdom.* 8vo. 85 pp. 2s. 6d. Debrett. 1801.

We have more than once had occaſion to cenſure the expreſſion of Catholic Emancipation, ſo often uſed by ſpeakers and writers on the affairs of Ireland, as implying that the people of that perſuaſion are in a ſtate of ſlavery. A ſimilar objection applies to the title of the treatiſe before us; ſince an argument *againſt* extermination implies that ſome perſon had argued *for* it; but, though intemperate expreſſions may have ſometimes been uſed, no argument of ſuch a tendency, to our recollection, appears in the writings of Dr. Duigenan, or indeed of any other author; and ſurely, without being deemed advocates for extermination, we may be permitted to doubt whether it be prudent to render Catholics eligible to the firſt offices of the ſtate.

Objectionable, however, as the title of this tract appears to us, its contents ſhow it to be the work of a man, neither deficient in candour nor abilities; and, though ſome of the facts alledged by him ſeem queſ-

queſtionable*, his reaſonings appear ſometimes to merit conſideration. He is very ſevere on Dr. Duigenan, whoſe coarſeneſs of invective we have ourſelves occaſionally cenſured; but he profeſſes to be well-affected to the Conſtitution, both in church and ſtate; though he deems a compliance with the claims of the Catholics would be a meaſure of expedience as well as juſtice.

One of the moſt ſucceſsful of this writer's arguments againſt Dr. D. is the *argumentum ad hominum*. He ſhows from the Doctor's "Letter to Mr. Grattan," that he did not always entertain the ſentiments, upon this queſtion, avowed in his "State of Ireland." Poſſibly, however, ſubſequent events may have afforded a good ground for this change of opinion.

Various other paſſages in the laſt-mentioned work are ſtrongly reprobated by this writer, and particularly that which aſſerts, that the Catholics refuſe to take the oath of ſupremacy; whereas, he aſſures us, they object only to "two words." But if theſe two words *(eccleſiaſtical* or *ſpiritual)* form a very material part of the oath, we ſhould conceive the aſſertion, that "they refuſe to take it" perfectly juſt, although they do not object to every clauſe. The meaning of Dr. D. is, if we miſtake not, ſufficiently obvious and clear.

Much is ſaid in the treatiſe before us, to ſhow the improbability that any danger would ariſe to the eſtabliſhed Church from admitting the Catholics to the privileges claimed by them; the opinions of Sir J. Davies, and others, reſpecting Ireland, are quoted, and an hiſtorical detail of the inſurrections in that kingdom is given, in order to prove that they did not originate in religious differences alone.

Although we do not adopt all the concluſions of this writer, we think this work deſerves a place among the reſpectable tracts on this important queſtion.

ART. 38. *The Crimes of Cabinets; or, a Review of their Plans and Aggreſſions for the Annihilation of the Liberties of France, and the Diſmemberment of her Territories; with illuſtrative Anecdotes, military and political. By Lewis Goldſmith.* 8vo. 315 pp. Printed for the Author. 1801.

It was, we think, obſerved by Dr. Johnſon, that he had often heard of honours or rewards being allotted to men diſtinguiſhed for the love of their country, but that he had not yet heard of any rewards being appointed for thoſe, "who, with equal zeal, hated their country." When ſuch remunerations ſhall be eſtabliſhed, ſcarcely any man, we will venture to ſay, will be entitled to ſo large a ſhare as the writer before us. Throughout the preſent conteſt with France, numerous have been the miſrepreſentations, exaggerations, and falſehoods employed by the emiſſaries of Jacobiniſm to blacken the conduct of Great Britain. They are here collected and retailed in language, compared to which the ravings of a Hebert and a Marat may almoſt be deemed mild and gentle. As a ſpecimen of this writer's regard to

* Particularly the aſſertions, that "not above a dozen Catholic prieſts were engaged in the late rebellion," and that there were "more lawyers concerned in it than prieſts." P. 33.

truth,

truth, the exploded treaty of Pavia (the authenticity of which not one ſpeaker or writer, on the ſide of Oppoſition, of the leaſt character, now ventures to ſupport) is the foundation of his arguments, the corner-ſtone of his work. Nay, he has the audacity to aſſert, that Great Britain acceded to it in March, 1792; and a copy of this ſpurious treaty (the forgery of which is evident on the face of it) forms the firſt article in his Appendix. All the other miſrepreſentations, by which the advocates of France have endeavoured to ſupport her cauſe, are here repeated, with the addition of ſome aſſertions ſtill more daring, and ſeaſoned with a due proportion of ſcurrilous and vulgar invective. Aſſaſſins, in the eyes of this writer, are heroes; and every ſovereign, every political character, who has, in any degree, oppoſed the views of France, is loaded with imputations of the moſt odious nature, and without the ſlighteſt proof. On the other hand, every unprovoked aggreſſion of the Gallic leaders is ſtudiouſly kept out of view; and thoſe exceſſes of the people in other countries, which the French agents are well known to have provoked, are uniformly imputed to the reſpective governments. Of courſe, the correſpondence between Lord Grenville and M. Chauvelin is repreſented with the ſame *candour* and regard to truth; and it is among other things roundly aſſerted, that the French "offered to relinquiſh all ideas of opening the Scheldt." From what part of the correſpondence the writer derived this information, we are at a loſs to gueſs. It is, we apprehend, equally true with the ſubſequent aſſertion, that they ſent, by M. Maret, propoſals to "cede the greateſt part of Belgium which they had conquered, and their poſſeſſions in St. Domingo, and to repeal the decree of the 19th of November, 1792." But we are ſick of a *farrago*, ſo ſhamefully antipatriotic and unfair. It is ſome credit to the prudence, at leaſt, of the bookſellers, that not one of them could be found who would publiſh it.

ART. 39. *State of the French Republic at the End of the Year 8. Tranſlated from the French of Citizen Hauterive, Chef de Relations Exterieures. By Lewis Goldſmith, Author of "The Crimes of Cabinets."* 8vo. 312 pp. 5s. Jordan. 1801.

Faithful to the cauſe of France, or rather to the preſent ruler of that nation, the author of "The Crimes of Cabinets*," now appears as the tranſlator of a work, which may be conſidered as the manifeſto of the Chief Conſul, or, more properly ſpeaking, as the brief from which his ſupporters, in every country, may derive topics in his favour. This ſcheme of tranſlation, we think far more judicious in Mr. Goldſmith, than that of appearing as an original author. "The Crimes of Cabinets" is a work, in every point of view, in the loweſt claſs of Jacobin compoſitions. But Citizen Hauterive, or whoever is the author of the work before us, is a writer of addreſs and ſkill, if not in his ſtyle and language (upon which, not having ſeen the original, we cannot pronounce) at leaſt in the choice of his topics, the

* See the preceding article.

arrange-

arrangement of his matter, and the application of his arguments. There is alſo in his work an outward ſemblance of candour and moderation. But were his miſrepreſentations to be carefully noted, and his ſophiſtries completely expoſed (a taſk which we hope to ſee performed by ſome able writer) all this apparent candour would ſoon vaniſh, all this pretended moderation would eaſily be traced to its impure ſource. Our limits will only permit us to ſtate, by way of caution, the principal objects of this work, and to detect a few of the more prominent fallacies contained in it, as ſamples of the reſt.

The leading objects of Citizen Hauterive, and his employer, are, firſt, to excite and ſpread throughout Europe a jealouſy of the naval power, and commercial greatneſs of Britain, together with a hatred of her political ſyſtem; ſecondly, to lull to reſt all fears of the inordinate power, the overweening ambition, and the ſubtle intriguing policy of France; and, laſtly, to reconcile the people of France itſelf, as well as the ſurrounding nations, to the conſular government.

"The treaty of Weſtphalia," ſays this writer, "aſſigned to each nation its place in the great political ſcale of Europe, and would perhaps have ſecured for a ſucceſſion of ages the general rights of the nations of Europe, if the ſyſtem, from three different events, had not been entangled in new combinations." Theſe three events he ſtates to be, "1ſt. The formation of a new empire in the north of Europe. 2dly. The elevation of Pruſſia to a place among the powers of the firſt rank. And, laſtly, the prodigious extenſion of the colonial and maritime ſyſtem in the four quarters of the globe."

The intelligent reader will ſoon perceive the deſign of this introductory ſtatement: it is, obviouſly, to lead him from the conſideration of a ſource of that derangement in the balance of power, much more efficacious than any of thoſe which have been mentioned; namely, the ſyſtematic ambition of France, and her almoſt unceaſing attempts to acquire inordinate power. Accordingly, great pains are taken to ſhow the error of thoſe ſtateſmen who "formed in their minds an extravagant idea of the pre-eminence of France, and diſdained her councils and her ſupport." In ſhort, if we are to believe this French writer, Europe ſhould have relied on the moderation of Louis the Fourteenth in the laſt age, and the good faith of the Republic in the preſent, as the beſt pledges that the balance between different ſtates would remain inviolate, and their liberties ſecure.

Cromwell is conſidered as the real founder of what this writer calls "the maritime ſyſtem," and conſequently (according to him) "the real author of the naval wars of Europe." His crime is the having "proclaimed the Navigation Act;" which, ſays Citizen Hauterive, "placed the commerce of his nation in a poſition of conſtant jealouſy and emnity with all others."

Hinc illæ lacrymæ; for the writer adds, "that famous act could have no other reſult but that of infuſing a general ſpirit of emulation, a vigorous impulſe, and an uniform direction into the commerce of England: *it greatly contributed to the proſperity of that country.*" If the maxim, that we may take leſſons from an enemy, be juſt, this confeſſion of Bonaparte's advocate will be carefully treaſured in the minds of Britons, and afford an uſeful key to the motives and deſigns of their enemy.

enemy. We paſs over the accuſations againſt England, of "ſeeking" to diſunite the ſtates of the continent, "fomenting quarrels in order to weaken them,"—"advancing claims to commercial preference," &c. &c. Theſe have been the conſtant charges brought againſt us by France, and have been ſo ſucceſsfully repelled by the force of our arguments, as her aggreſſions have by the power of our arms.

The great point laboured in this part of the work is, that the war of the different powers againſt France (which is ſtigmatized as cruel, impolitic, and unjuſt) was "the forced reſult of the uncertain and inſecure poſition in which all the ſtates of Europe, at the time of the French Revolution, found themſelves placed with regard to each other." This poſition is ſupported by a variety of miſrepreſentations, which a little attention and knowledge of the ſubject will, we truſt, eaſily detect. In almoſt any ſtate of Europe that can be imagined, ſuch a revolution of France muſt have kindled a general war.

We ſhall not take upon us, though it might be done with advantage, to form an analyſis of the remainder of this work. Great pains are taken to perſuade the world of the moderation of France, and its ruler, in abandoning a part of its conqueſts, though ſufficient is kept to endanger, at every moment, the liberties and ſafety of Europe; and the Citizen gravely reckons all the nominal Republics which the French have eſtabliſhed around them, and in which they retain large armies and garriſons, as independent ſtates!

In the interior of France every thing, according to this author, is exactly as it ſhould be! The conſtitution is "neither monarchical nor democratical," (we agree to this, it is a military deſpotiſm) and Bonaparte is a Cæſar, without his faults; in ſhort, "guiltleſs of his," or any country's "blood." So much for Citizen Hauterive, and his tranſlator, Mr. Lewis Goldſmith.

ART. 40. *Opinions of his Majeſty's Miniſters reſpecting the French Revolution, the War, &c. from* 1790 *to* 1801, *chronologically arranged. Selected from their Speeches in Parliament: with Extracts from the Speeches of the Oppoſition. Compiled by James Bannantine.* 8vo. 159 pp. 4s. Ridgway. 1801.

The compiler of this publication anticipates, in his Preface, an objection which he very juſtly expected; namely, that "only detached parts of the ſpeeches are here given, and, that were the whole context publiſhed, a very different idea would be formed." This would indeed be the objection even to a well-digeſted and well-intended abſtract of Parliamentary Debates; ſince it is impoſſible that brief extracts from the ſpeeches on ſuch important topics, can do juſtice to the arguments contained in them. But to ſuch a collection of paſſages as the preſent, formed manifeſtly under a partial bias, and (as we ſincerely believe) deſigned for party purpoſes, the obſervation applies with tenfold force. This pamphlet is indeed drawn up with ſome addreſs; and a conſiderable proportion conſiſts of the ſpeeches of miniſters; but of thoſe ſpeeches the moſt declamatory parts are generally ſelected, the objections by the oppoſition members are carefully placed in the moſt ſtrik-

ing point of view, the anſwers to thoſe objections are almoſt always ſuppreſſed, and the whole is accompanied by notes, containing inſidious miſrepreſentations, and ſufficiently indicating the deſign and principles of the compiler*. Thoſe impartial perſons who have peruſed any fair account of the debates on the war, would read with indignation and diſguſt theſe garbled extracts, and acknowledge the character we have given of them to be juſt.

ART. 41. *Pandora's Box and the Evils of Britain, with effectual, juſt, and equitable Means for their Annihilation, and for the Preſervation of the Peace, Happineſs, and Proſperity of the Country.* 8vo. 64 pp. 1s. 6d. Vernor and Hood. 1801.

How generally ſuch mighty promiſes, as are contained in the above title, exemplify the well-known fable of the Mountain, our readers need not now be told. At a period of national diſtreſs, ſcarcely a man of ſpeculation who turns his thoughts to the evil, but ſoon imagines he has diſcovered the remedy. The writer of this tract, in his Preface, modeſtly (and, as it ſhould ſeem, juſtly) diſclaims all pretence to talents and learning, and only thinks, that "by careful reflection, he has taken up the queſtion right." He divides ſociety (two profeſſions excepted) into the *Agricultural Claſs*, and the *Commercial Claſs*, and thinks that the poor of each ſhould be ſeparately claſſed, and maintained accordingly. The poor laws, as they now ſtand, are (he obſerves) well adapted to provide a fund for the relief of the *agricultural* poor; but he propoſes that another branch be added, providing a fund for the *commercial* poor, which ſhould be ſupported by the *commercial* intereſt. How far ſuch a ſeparation be practicable, and by the means he ſuggeſts, namely, the appointment of *commercial overſeers*, we will not take upon ourſelves to decide. Probably the beneficial conſequences expected, would not ariſe in a degree equal to his hopes. Yet it cannot be denied, that the removal of manufacturers (as ſoon as they become in any degree chargeable) back to their original country pariſhes, is an inconvenience, and perhaps an injuſtice, in the preſent ſyſtem of poor laws, which deſerves conſideration and redreſs.

SCARCITY.

ART. 42. *Thoughts on the beſt Modes of carrying into Effect the Syſtem of Economy recommended in his Majeſty's Proclamation.* 8vo. 46 pp. 1s. 6d. Wright. 1801.

Attention has not been wanting, on our part, to the publications belonging to this claſs; but they have been poured into our hands in ſuch abundance, that it was impoſſible to read, and conſider well, the various opinions concerning the cauſes and remedies of ſcarcity, till the evil itſelf, we truſt (with the leave of the great London dealers)

* For inſtance, in pp. 96, 102, 140, and the clumſy irony in p. 143.

has

has nearly ceaſed to exiſt. We muſt now diſpatch the remaining tracts on this ſubject, with as much brevity as their reſpective merits will warrant.

Theſe "Thoughts" are plain and uſeful. They are addreſſed, 1ſt, to perſons in affluence, or in moderate circumſtances; 2ndly, to the poorer ſort, from the humble ſhop-keeper to the common labourer. A few words are added, to thoſe who deny the exiſtence of a ſcarcity.

Œconomy in the uſe of *meat*, as well as of bread, is ſtrongly enforced. Rice and fiſh are the ſubſtitutes chiefly recommended; and an abſtinence from all rich ſoups and gravies is properly enjoined. We doubt whether the author's own example could be generally followed: "I eat *no bread*; and have reduced my conſumption of meat to nearly *one half*." By this reſolute method, he propoſes to accompliſh the buſineſs of reducing prices, within two months and a half, inſtead of ten. We fear that, in this way, ſcarcity would be ſucceeded by an univerſal *leanneſs*; but as it is certainly better that we ſhould all be lean, than that half of us ſhould be ſtarved, we ſubmit the author's meritorious example to the conſideration of our readers.

ART. 43. *Reflections upon the evil Effects of an increaſing Population; upon the preſent high Price of Proviſions, particularly Corn; upon the Bounty Act; upon the Propriety of general Incloſures: in which a Mode is ſuggeſted of relieving the preſent Neceſſities of the Poor, upon the Principles of Equity. To which is added, an Appendix, containing ſome Remarks upon the Subject of Tythes; further Obſervations upon Population; and Animadverſions upon ſome late Publications on the preſent Scarcity. By Edward Gardner.* 8vo. 88 pp. 2s. Raikes, Glouceſter. 1800.

One of the moſt tedious and unſatisfactory declamations which the ſcarcity has produced; tending to exalt agriculture at the expence of commerce and manufactures; imputing to an increaſed population "almoſt every civil evil;" and extolling "the ſcanty thinneſs of rural and agricultural habitancy."

ART. 44. *Uniting and Monopolizing Farms plainly proved Diſadvantageous to the Land-Owners, and highly prejudicial to the Public. To which are added, ſeveral Obſervations, ſhewing the Cauſes of the preſent high Price of all Kinds of Proviſions. By John Lewis, of Eaſt Bergholt. The Third Edition, with Additions.* 8vo. 53 pp. 2s. Longman. 1801.

Agriculturiſts, as well as doctors, ſometimes diſagree moſt wonderfully. In oppoſition to the author laſt reviewed, here is one, who *laments* that the population is *diminiſhed* by uniting and monopolizing farms. The firſt edition of this tract was publiſhed in 1767; ſince which time, a hundred other writers have declaimed on the ſame ſide of the queſtion; and have failed (we believe) to convince the public,

that proprietors of land will not, upon the whole, leaſe it in the way moſt advantageous to their *various* intereſts, in reſpect both of the ſize of farms, and the duration of leaſes. We find nothing new, either in the original tract, or in the Obſervations which have been added to it.

ART. 45. *A comparative Statement of the Food produced from Arable and Graſs Lands, and the Returns ariſing from each; with Obſervations on the late Incloſures, and the probable Effect of a General Act for incloſing Commons, or Waſtes, Heaths, &c. Together with other Matters. Addreſſed to John Fane, Eſq. M. P. By the Rev. Luke Heſlop, Archdeacon of Bucks, Author of "Obſervations on the Aſſize of Bread," &c.* 4to. 18 pp. 2s. Reynolds. 1801.

We are not among thoſe who would inhibit abſolutely to clergymen all attention to rural affairs of a temporal nature, and to agriculture in particular. On the contrary, we cannot imagine any relaxation from their profeſſional duties and ſtudies, more conducive, than agriculture, to their health; more reputable, if duly limited; more beneficial to their own houſeholds, and to the public, or tending more ſtrongly to keep them conſtantly reſident among their pariſhioners. Some writers, indeed, fond of exhibiting caricatures, have repreſented the clergy as debaſed by theſe engagements, and vulgariſed in their manners, even beyond the loweſt ſwineherd. Some orators too, and even ſenators (as we underſtand) miſtaking theſe exhibitions for repreſentations of real character, have entertained their hearers by a recital of ſuch paſſages. If this was intended for argument, we can only lament, that the valuable time of a ſenate ſhould be waſted by liſtening to it; if in the way of facetiouſneſs, we make no great objection; for we are good-humoured enough to allow every man, ambitious of atchieving the reputation of a laughter-loving ſpeaker, not only to be as witty as he can from his own ſtock; but, lacking that, to derive all the aid he may from the recorded wit of other men. Only let him conſider, that there may poſſibly be a *third* ſource of laughter, which he would not (except unwittingly) ſupply.

Theſe reflections aroſe in our minds, on reading the tract before us, and recollecting certain debates in the month of June laſt, as recorded in our daily vehicles of news from political life. Mr. Heſlop has on this, and on former occaſions, rendered uſeful ſervice to his country, by the information which he has collected and communicated in rural concerns; and that (we are well aſſured) without any deſertion of his profeſſional duties, or any injury to his *manners*. We muſt review this tract, as we did a former one by the ſame writer (vol. xv, p. 18) referring to the book itſelf, without which our remarks could hardly be made intelligible within a moderate compaſs.

This ſtatement refers to "the parts of Buckinghamſhire, below the Chiltern-Hills." It proves very clearly, that incomparably more food is produced from arable than from graſs land; and from the former, more of potatoes than of wheat, &c. But Mr. H. does not appear to have conſidered ſufficiently, of how much greater value is a *pound* of butter than a pound of beef; beef than wheat, and wheat than potatoes

tatoes (pp. 1, 2, 3, &c.)—"Unfavourable ſeaſons," are vaſtly more injurious upon arable, than upon graſs lands (p. 4).—The "returns" do not afford encouragement to tillage. If tithes and rates were added, little profit would remain for the occupier (pp. 6, 7, 8). We think, however, that the charges are over-rated, and ſome of the advantages (as pigs) are omitted. Mr. H. doubts, we think with good reaſon, whether a general encloſure act, extending to lands now under the plough, would not *diminiſh* the growth of wheat; and he attributes the late change from exportation to importation, to an extraordinary and rapid increaſe of incloſures, in direct oppoſition to the concluſion drawn in the Report of the Committee of Waſte-Lands. At p. 14, (note) Mr. H. contends, that the number of acres of wheat, or other grain uſed for bread, ſhould be half the number of the people; the average produce being 19 buſhels per acre, of which three buſhels are uſed for ſeed, ſtarch, hair-powder, &c. and eight buſhels being required, on an average, by each individual. At p. 15, Mr. H. argues againſt a minnimum price of bread-corn; a meaſure which we are aſſured will never be reſorted to, the objections againſt it being almoſt innumerable. The ſtatement at p. 16, by ſome "intelligent farmers," appears to us not a little exaggerated. The remedies ſuggeſted for ſcarcity, are, an amelioration of the corn laws, in which we heartily concur; premiums, public or private, which we think impracticable; and, above all, a general act for encloſing *only commons, heaths*, &c. From theſe few remarks, it will probably appear to ſuch of our readers as attend particularly to theſe ſubjects, that the whole tract is well deſerving of their conſideration.

ART. 46. *A brief Review of the Cauſes which have progreſſively operated to enhance the Price of Proviſions, but particularly of Bread-Corn. With Suggeſtions as to the beſt Means of alleviating the preſent Diſtreſs, and preventing the Recurrence of a ſimilar Calamity.* 8vo. 91 pp. 2s. Vernor and Hood. 1801.

"The following remarks were haſtily written, &c. which the reader will pleaſe to obſerve." No reader can fail to obſerve it. The deſign of this tract is evidently good; but it contains (eſpecially near the concluſion of it) many raſh and impracticable ſuggeſtions.

ART. 47. *The Effect of Paper-Money on the Price of Proviſions: or the Point in Diſpute between Mr. Boyd and Sir Francis Baring, examined; the Bank Paper-Money proved to be an adequate Cauſe for the high Price of Proviſions; and conſtitutional Remedies recommended. By William Frend, Author of "The Principles of Taxation,"—"The Principles of Algebra,"—"Letters to the Biſhop of Lincoln," &c.* 8vo. 27 pp. 1s. 6d. Goſnel, &c.

On the firſt point mentioned in the title-page, Mr. F. contends, that "it is not to the increaſed circulation, not to the additional three millions and a half, but to the nature of the circulation itſelf, that the increaſed price of proviſions is owning." P. 11. This point he endea-

endeavours to eſtabliſh by a mixture of wit and poſitive affirmation, much more than by argument. The ſecond point (concerning the Bank Paper-Money being an *adequate* cauſe for the high price of proviſions) being probably found untenable, we are put off with an opinion that it is a very powerful—a very great cauſe. Six other inferior cauſes are enumerated; the laſt of which, a deficiency in the harveſt, (joined with the practices of Mark-lane,) may perhaps outweigh all other cauſes, as much as a ſack well filled with good wheat from the incloſed fens in Lincolnſhire, would outweigh one ſightly filled with feathers, from the miſerable geeſe in the fens ſtill open and half-drowned. The "conſtitutional remedies," are compriſed within a ſingle page; and are, a confining of the Bank in the emiſſion of its paper; and an application of labourers to Juſtices in quarter ſeſſions, for an advance of wages according to the riſe in the prices of proviſions.

ART. 48. *Remarks on the preſent high Price of Grain, and on the Expediency of farther Legiſlative Reſtrictions, in Order to effect its Reduction.* 8vo. 22 pp. 6d. Jordan. 1801.

The author profeſſes, that "the *cauſes* of the high price of proviſions (meaning only corn) are not within the ſcope of his deſign." His remedies, which he calls *equalizing the effects of the ſcarcity*, are two, of which we are left to take our choice: 1ſt. "to apportion the quantum of individual conſumption;" (p. 6.) that is (as we conceive) to provide by law, that no individual perſon, of whatever occupation, ſize, or ſtomach, ſhall eat more than a ſtated quantity of bread per day; or, 2dly. "to afford the means of obtaining a ſufficiency to thoſe rendered otherwiſe unable to do it;" that is, to provide every poor perſon money enough, to buy as much bread as he can eat; and ſo conſume all the corn in the kingdom, ſix months before the following harveſt. Here is a notable proof, that projects, gilt with fine phraſes, may ſometimes look well, and paſs tolerably current; but in a plain covering, that is, in common words, they will paſs for nothing elſe than arrant nonſenſe.

ART. 49. *Humane Suggeſtions to Members of the Firſt Imperial Parliament; or, an Appeal to the Miniſtry; being urgent Reaſons for new Laws, reſpecting Credit and Famine. Second Edition.* 8vo. 48 pp. 2s. Scott. 1801.

That the torrent of paper-money, by which the kingdom is now inundated, requires a ſtrong check, may perhaps be ſafely admitted. But we ſhould not chooſe to commit the management of ſuch a check to the author of this pamphlet, whoſe operations would probably be firſt directed againſt "the paper of the Exchequer, the national debt, the bank of England." P. 2. The real drift of this writer may be ſufficiently conjectured, from his panegyrics upon ſuch books as "the Uſe and abuſe of Money," "the Iniquity of Banking,"

and "the Cause of the threatened Famine traced to its real Source." P. 36. For an account of the last of these books, see our Review, vol. xvii. p. 439.

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 50. *Select Essays of Dio Chrysostom, translated into English from the Greek; with Notes, critical and illustrative. By Gilbert Wakefield, B. A.* 8vo. 5s. Philips. 1800.

We were at loss to think what could induce Mr. Wakefield, considering the present high price of paper and printing, to hazard a publication such as this, so little likely to become popular. But it seems as if this gentleman had a most extraordinary propensity for note-writing; or perhaps a certain secretion of bile, which would have mortal effects unless thus timely dissipated. Certain it is, that some of the notes subjoined might, with as much propriety, been added to one of the bad translations of Kotzebue's plays, or one of Tom Payne's mad effusions against kingly government.

We greatly pity talents so misemployed, and time so wasted. The translation itself seems generally correct, and to flow in a style sufficiently easy. A second volume can hardly be expected.

ART. 51. *Nuptiæ Sacræ, or an Inquiry into the Scriptural Doctrine of Marriage and Divorce.* 8vo. 3s. 6d. Wright. 1801.

It is impossible not to feel soothed and satisfied by the excellent spirit which pervades this manly and well-written performance. The subject which it professes to discuss, is every way considered, of the highest interest and importance; and it must necessarily excite the surprise of the dispassionate and well-disposed reader, that it was treated in a very solemn place with an unbecoming levity. The author enters at large into the question both of marriage and divorce, as connected with Scripture, and exhibits throughout great learning, judgment, and candour. His two conclusions are, that "the intermarriage of the adulteress with the seducer is not commanded by heaven;" and that, "by the divine law, the divorced woman has not forfeited her general power of remarriage." As a preventive of crime, the revival of the spirit of the ancient penalties against the seducer is recommended; and, with respect to the woman, that punishment which, whilst it may keep at a distance the enemies of her virtue, may impress a salutary caution on her own mind; namely, the loss of her fortune, and an official inspection of her moral conduct.

ART. 52. *A Dissertation on the Progress of the Fine Arts. By John Robert Scott, D. D.* 4to. 3s. White. 1800.

This Dissertation is properly enough dedicated to Mr. West, the President of the Royal Academy; but we do not think it contains any

any observations from which they, who are not artists, will derive particular satisfaction. There is no great novelty of remark; and, where there is, it seems liable to controversy.

ART. 53. *The profitable Planter. A Treatise on the Cultivation of Larch and Scotch-Fir Timber; showing that their excellent Quality (especially that of the former) will render them so extensively useful, as greatly to promote the Interests of the Country. With Directions for planting in various Soils and Situations, by a new and expeditious Method: also for the Management of Plantations. To which are added, useful Hints, in regard to Shelter and Ornament. By W. Pontey, Nursery-man and Planter.* 8vo. 96 pp. 3s. 6d. Huddersfield printed; sold by Vernor and Hood. 1800.

With this tract is given a specimen of the larch wood, of about 35 years growth, which is certainly a fine, and apparently useful, species of deal. Every encouragement to planting, and every improvement that can be made in it are, we are fully convinced, national benefits; and, therefore, we recommend the observations of Mr. Pontey to the notice of all persons who may be in situations where they can apply them to practice.

ART. 54. *Classical Biography, exhibiting alphabetically the proper Names, with a short Account of the several Deities, Heroes, and other Persons, mentioned in the ancient Classic Authors, and a more particular Description of the most distinguished Characters among the Romans; the Whole being interspersed with occasional Explanations of Words and Phrases: designed chiefly to contribute to the Illustration of the Latin Classics. By Alexander Adam, LL. D. Rector of the High School, Edinburgh.* 8vo. 6s. Cadell and Davies. 1800.

The excellent Classical Dictionary of M. Lempriere, which has passed through a variety of editions, seems to preclude the necessity of any similar publication. We do not by any means think that there is any additional information in this volume, which would justify our particular recommendation. Many eminent names are dismissed with very abrupt notice; for example, all that is said of Herodotus is, that he was the first who adorned history, but did not study harmony in his periods. That the book must be very useful as far as it goes, it would be unjust not to assert; but it is equally so not to declare that, as a whole, it is inferior to M. Lempriere's work. It professes, indeed, to confine itself principally to the Roman classics.

ART. 55. *Memoirs of the late Rev. Samuel Medley, compiled by his Son; to which are annexed, Two Sermons, and a Variety of Miscellaneous Pieces in Verse.* 8vo. 6s. Johnson. 1800.

To a tribute of filial piety, we must necessarily feel an inclination of complacency and kindness; but it is not always judicious to obtrude

trude upon the public what are called memoirs of private and obſcure individuals. This volume commences with a biographical ſketch of the grandfather of Mr. Medley, who went in the ſuite of an ambaſſador to Conſtantinople, and who appears to have been a pious and well-diſpoſed man. Next follows an account of Mr. Guy Medley, who was tutor to the Duke of Montague, and afterwards Attorney-General in the iſland of St. Vincent. He returned to England, and "became acquainted with the things of God;" but, from the time of his "converſion to God," he experienced many painful afflictions. From the above phraſes it may eaſily be ſeen what is the nature of this publication; which, we doubt not, will be very acceptable to the friends of the author, and his deceaſed parent; but we muſt queſtion whether it will be ſo generally to the world.

ART. 56. *Cary's New Guide for aſcertaining Hackney-Coach Fares, and Porterage Rates. Being an actual and minute Admeaſurement of every Street which is a Carriage-Way throughout the Metropolis: ſhowing not only the whole Length of each Street, but alſo the Diſtance between each Coach-Turning leading out of the ſame, and thereby affording the Means of aſcertaining, with the greateſt Preciſion, the Length of any Routes however Indirect, throughout the Whole of this Survey; which, for further Accommodation, is extended to Hampſtead, Highgate, Iſlington, &c. &c. &c. To which are alſo added, Abſtracts of the Hackney-Coach and Porterage Acts, a copious Index, &c.* 8vo. 3s. 6d. A whole-ſheet Map, to accompany it, may be had at 1s. 6d. Carey, 181, Strand. 1801.

Nothing can be more completely formed for accuracy of information, on ſuch a ſubject, than the plan of this work: againſt which we ſee but one thing likely to operate; which is the indolence of purchaſers, who will often conſent to pay beyond what is juſt, than to ſit down to the calculation of miles, furlongs, and poles. Be this as it may, the book in itſelf is good, and well deſerves to be recommended. When caſes are ſtrong enough to demand a reference, it will give an anſwer with a preciſion not otherwiſe to be obtained but by applying at the coach-office. It may ſerve alſo to reſolve many other queſtions of utility or amuſement in which diſtances are concerned.

ART. 57. *A Synopſis of Huſbandry; being curſory Obſervations in the ſeveral Branches of Rural Oeconomy, adduced from a long and practical Experience in a Farm of conſiderable Extent. By John Baniſter, Gent. of Horton Kirby in Kent.* 8vo. 471 pp. 7s. Robinſons. 1799.

The author's intention was, "not to obtrude theſe remarks upon his readers under the notion of a complete treatiſe on huſbandry, but to enumerate and methodize ſuch obſervations as had occurred to him in the courſe of his practice." P. vi. The Preface cenſures, very properly, thoſe mere ſpeculators in huſbandry, who abound in the preſent times, and who commonly either waſte a ſmall fortune, or diminiſh a large one. Among the qualifications neceſſary to form a

good

good huſbandman, is reckoned "a thorough knowledge of the profeſſion, which is to be attained on no other terms, than by conſtant practice, and an early acquaintance with the buſineſs; in ſhort, by having been bred a farmer from early youth." P. xi. To this we may well aſſent. But when Mr. B. goes on to ſtate, that in order to obtain a perfect knowledge of his buſineſs, he muſt "be endued not only with *ſtrong natural abilities*, but with *bright parts*," (p. xiv.) he ſeems to be deſcribing the requiſite qualifications, not for a farmer, but for a lord high chancellor. If our firſt-rate farmers were all thus accompliſhed, well indeed might we exclaim, "O fortunato's minium agricolas." The Poſtſcript informs us, that more than a dozen years have elapſed ſince the writing of the Preface. The work is perhaps the better for this circumſtance; being undebaſed by thoſe miſchievous projects and ſchemes of innovation in our *laws*, which have lately rendered agricultural books, and particularly thoſe *conſidered* by the Board of Agriculture, objects of jealouſy and alarm to a great part of the community; as threatening danger not only to the quiet and property of eccleſiaſtical perſons, but to all property whatever, and to the quiet even of the ſtate itſelf. See the *General Views* of Brown, Middleton, &c. &c. &c.

It is not poſſible, within a moderate compaſs, to give any other than a general account of this work. The author's "curſory Obſervations" are indeed written *currente calamo*, with a pen which once put in motion can hardly be ſtopped. The matter might have been compreſſed within one third of the ſpace; and the book would then have preſented to agriculturiſts many obſervations very deſerving of their attention.

ART. 58. *Kearſley's Traveller's entertaining Guide through Great Britain; or, a Deſcription of the great and principal Croſs-Roads; marking the Diſtances of Places from London, and from each other. With a conciſe Topographical Hiſtory of the Cities, Towns, chief Villages, Antiquities, Seats, &c.* 8vo. 638 pp. beſides ample Indexes. 6s. Kearſley. 1801.

The common plan of road-books is here conſiderably improved, by inſerting a topographical account of every place that occurs in each route. The accounts in general are ſhort, but, being printed in a ſmall type, contain very frequently a valuable quantity of information. There is alſo a very laudable diſtinctneſs preſerved in the mode of enumerating the places, and aſcertaining the diſtances, ſo as to make it more eaſy to be conſulted, perhaps, than many works which convey much leſs inſtruction. We perfectly ſubſcribe to the aſſertion of the compiler, in a ſhort Preface, that "thoſe who travel upon buſineſs; thoſe who make periodical viſits to watering places, thoſe who ramble into Wales, or who viſit the Lakes, or who traverſe the leſs cultivated tracks of the north, will find their time agreeably beguiled, by making this little volume the companion of their travels."

ART.

ART. 59. *An Abridgment of Mr. Ruddiman's Rudiments and Grammar of the Latin Tongue, with his Engliſh Rules of Conſtruction entire, and the Compiler's Notes and Illuſtrations; to which is prefixed, A ſhort Vocabulary, Engliſh and Latin. By George Chapman, LL. D.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. Cadell and Davies. 1799.

Mr. Ruddiman's Grammar ſtill has the preference in the ſchools of Scotland; this Abridgment, therefore, muſt be an acceptable manual for the younger claſſes educated under ſuch a ſyſtem. Some things are added at the end, which can be of uſe only to the higher forms; ſuch as decerpta ex Catonis diſtichis; but, on the whole, it is a good Grammar, and does Dr. Chapman much credit.

FOREIGN CATALOGUE.

FRANCE.

ART. 60. *Notices et extraits des manuſcrits de la bibliothèque nationale et autres bibliothèques, publiés par l'Inſtitut national de France; faiſant ſuite aux notices et extraits lus au comité établi dans la cidevant académie des inſcriptions et belles-lettres. Tome V.* in 4to. Paris.

The preſent volume contains 43 extracts or notices of MSS. in the Arabic, Perſian, Turkiſh, Tartar-Manchou, Greek, Latin, and French languages, together with ſome inedited and intereſting pieces. Mr. *Langlès*, in the notices communicated by him on the hiſtory and code of Djenguyz khân *(Genghiſkan)* and on a *Latin-Chineſe-Manchou Dictionary*, gives us, reſpecting the character of this conqueror and legiſlator, hitherto ſo imperfectly underſtood, as alſo concerning the advantages to be derived from the knowledge of the Manchou language, details equally new and important. Meſſrs. *Ameilhon*, *Camus*, and *Levêque*, likewiſe make us acquainted with, and appreciate different hiſtorical monuments, more or leſs worthy of attention, between the ninth and twelfth century; we have here alſo ſome account, which will be continued, of an immenſe collection of ancient Greek chemiſts, or rather alchymiſts, which exiſts in the national library, by Mr. *Ameilhon*. The above-mentioned *Levêque* and *Camus*, have alſo been employed on critical and bibliographical ſubjects; the former in the deſcription of the celebrated MS. of *Anacreon*, heretofore belonging to the *Vatican*, but now transferred to the French library; the ſecond, in two notices on a MS. not leſs valuable, of *Ariſtotle's Hiſtory of Animals*, which before made a part of the library at Venice; and on ſeveral MSS. and editions of *Manuel Phile*, a naturaliſt of the fourteenth century. Theſe three notices ſhow all the various readings found in theſe MSS.

The

The twenty-five notices, by the late Mr. *Legrand d'Auſſy*, on poems, romances, treatiſes of morality, and, more eſpecially, ſatires of the middle age, form that part of the volume which will probably be the moſt intereſting to the generality of readers. It is terminated by a notice or memoir of Mr. *Laporte Dutheil*, on a poem in the Provençal language, with ſome account of the author, a troubadour of the fourteenth century; and by the publication of twenty-nine letters of an orator of the lower empire *(Theodorus Hyrtacenſis)* which now appear for the firſt time. The ſequel of theſe letters, to the number of ninety-three, will be publiſhed in the next volume.

Beſides Arabic, Perſian, and Turkiſh characters, of various forms and ſizes, this volume contains a fragment of the *Code of Genghiſkan*, of thirteen pages, in the original language; it likewiſe preſents a model of the Manchou characters, the firſt of this kind which have been engraved in Europe, by Didot, under the direction of Mr. *Langlès*; and five plates exhibiting different ornaments of MSS. *fac-ſimiles*, and four figures of animals, taken from a ſuperb MS. of *Manuel Phile*, &c. *Eſpr. d. Journ.*

ART. 61. *Hiſtoire abrégée du cabinet des médailles et antiques de la bibliothèque nationale*, &c. *par* A. L. Cointreau, *ancien premier employé au dit cabinet, durant* 27 *ans conſécutifs.* Paris, An IX. 1 Vol. in 8vo. of 248 pp. with a Plate.

Gaſton d'Orleans, in the different places to which he was baniſhed, as the puniſhment of his perpetual intrigues, occupied himſelf in the ſtudy of botany and of antiquities. At his death, his golden medals formed the commencement of the collection ſo much celebrated afterwards under the name of the *Cabinet du Roi*. *Colbert* employed *Vaillant* to collect medals. *Carcavi*, *Rainſan*, *Morel*, *Oudinet*, and *Simon*, claſſed and greatly enriched this collection. Mr. *de Boze*, who had the care of it for thirty-five years, depoſited in it his own treaſures, thoſe of the Abbé *Rothelin*, of Mr. *de Beauveau*, of *Mahudel*, of *Foucault*, the intendant of Normandy. In 1754 he died, and both the Academy of Belles-Lettres, of which he was ſecretary, and the Cabinet of Medals, would have ſuffered an irreparable loſs, if he had not had for his ſucceſſor Mr. *Barthélémy*. Recommended alike for his paleographic diſcoveries, and by his *Voyage du jeune* Anacharſis, *Barthélémy* ſaw the Cabinet much encreaſed, in the forty years during which he had the direction of it, both by his own acquiſitions, and by the medals of *Cary*, by thoſe of Clèves, by the immenſe collection of *Pellerin*, by a part of that of *Ennery*, by thoſe of *Petitot*, by the antiques from the treaſure of St. Denis, by thoſe of the St. Chapelle, and by the cabinet of medals and antiquities of St. Geneviève. Since the death of *Barthélémy*, the celebrated *Tabula Iſiaca* has been transferred to this Cabinet from Turin, and the very indifferent collection of medals from the Vatican. It is aſſerted that this Cabinet is as rich as all the reſt of Europe together.

After this hiſtorical introduction, Mr. *Cointreau* gives a *notice raiſonnée* of a great number of Greek and Roman medals. He deſcribes

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in the first place the astronomical medals, the signs of the zodiac, the labours of Hercules, their mythological emblem, the medals which present traits or figures relative to the geography of provinces, cities, people, rivers and mountains personified. He is afterwards occupied by the monuments of the history and religion of the Romans.

Mr. C. concludes this short view, with some account of the medals which have a relation to the fabulous and true history of the Greeks. He describes the Homeric medals, those of the most famous cities of Greece, and promises a continuation of this abridgment, which antiquaries will peruse with pleasure. The author has added the design of the votive silver buckler, found in the Rhone about the middle of the seventeenth century, and which has been so long known under the false denominations of *Annibal's buckler*, and of *the Continence of Scipio*. *Winckelmann* has, with his accustomed sagacity, recognised in it the dispute between Achilles and Agamemnon relative to the seizure of Briséis. *Ibid.*

ART. 62. *Essai de Statistique; par* J. A. Mourgue. Paris. 8vo.

" Je liai à mon plan," says the author, " les recherches sur la vie des hommes, et sur les effets de l'atmosphère sur les naissances et sur les mortalités; j'apperçus bientôt combien de pareilles observations, faites sur un plus grand nombre de données, sur de plus grandes quantités de naissances et de morts, devoient procurer des résultats curieux et utiles; je m'attachai à généraliser mes recherches, à les rendre plus précises."

This series of observations, made during a course of twenty-one years, in the city of Montpellier, Mr. *Mourgue* presents to the public, and to learned societies. It would be difficult to give an exact idea of the merit of these observations, as we cannot exhibit to our readers the numerous tables with which it is accompanied, and which are executed with more than ordinary precision. We can only point out some of their general results, with the differences remarked in different seasons, and between one year and another.

The influence of the seasons on generation, whether the number of births is reckoned by separate or collective months, gives a seventh more during the cold season. The month of January presents the greatest, and that of June the smallest number of births. The correspondence of anterior epochs gives the same results.

" Un effet aussi constant," says the observer, " doit provenir de quelque cause générale; et je m'en suis convaincu, en observant les mêmes phénomènes, dans tous les pays sur lesquels nous avons des données précises sur la population. Comme je pense que les mêmes causes influent sur le plus ou le moins grand nombre de morts pendant les mois correspondans, je développerai ci après mes idées sur ces causes générales. Ce que j'en dirai pourra donner lieu à des observations utiles qu'il sera nécessaire de faire et de propager sous divers climats."

The table of the number of marriages at Montpellier, for twenty-one years, is 5926; which gives an average of 282 annually. According to the population there is found, one year with another, one marriage to 117 individuals. The number of births being likewise,

com-

communibus annis, 1193, and that of marriages 282, we ſee that ſomewhat more than one fourth of thoſe who are born there marry.

The ſalubrity of the air of Montpellier, and the reputation of its medical ſchool, draw within its walls a great number of ſtrangers, chiefly on account of their various complaints; accordingly the three hoſpitals deſtined to ſuccour ſuffering humanity, are occupied by ſtrangers only; the people of the city have the greateſt averſion to theſe public aſylums; the excellent adminiſtration of the hoſpital St. Eloy has not been able to overcome this prejudice. The author, to diſtinguiſh the *nécrologe* of the inhabitants from that of the hoſpital St. Eloy, has formed two diſtinct tables of the mortalities which have taken place during twenty-one years. The firſt gives the number of burials by the year; the ſecond, by months, taken collectively; ſo that if the number is divided by 21, the mean term is given for each month.

" Indépendamment de ces époques," ſays this author, " j'ai diviſé la vie, en douze périodes, priſes du moment de la naiſſance, juſqu'à la centième année. Cette diviſion jetera une grande clarté ſur tout ce qu'on voudra conſidérer, relativement aux recherches que les phyſiciens, les médecins, même l'obſervateur politique, feront dans le cas de faire ſur la *viabilité* de l'homme. Voudroit on ſavoir, par exemple, combien il ſera mort de perſonnes dans la période de 80 à 90 ans? Le tableau montrera 1268, au bas de la colonne de 80 à 90 ans; 466 hommes, 802 femmes. Voudra t-on ſavoir dans quelle ſaiſon, dans quel mois, il meurt le plus ou le moins de vieillards de cet âge, on trouvera, au tableau des mois collectifs, que le mois de Décembre en voit périr le plus grand nombre, et le mois d'Avril en voit périr le moins."

The number of deaths in ſome years is ſo different from what it is in others, that we might have reaſon to be ſurpriſed, did we not conſider that there is, at certain times, a deſtructive ſmall-pox, which often carries off one tenth of the children under five years old; Mr. *M.* therefore very juſtly inveighs againſt the barbarous prejudice which prevents them from oppoſing to this epidemic complaint inoculation, the advantages of which are demonſtrated. The inſpection of the tables ſhows, that there are fewer deaths during the winter and the ſpring than during the ſummer and the autumn; that the ſpring, in which the number is the ſmalleſt, is to the ſummer, in which it is the greateſt, in the proportion of about $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 7.

" Une difference auſſi conſidérable," adds he, " doit engager à faire une attention particulière au traitement des maladies, dans les ſaiſons où il paroît que les chaleurs et l'état de l'atmoſphère ont une ſi grande influence."

The ſame tables inform us, that there are months which are more prejudicial to men than to women; that the early age of children is more dangerous to boys than to girls, by the difference of one fifth between the one and the other, &c.

In the paragraph *des cauſes du plus ou du moins grand nombre des mortalités pendant les diverſes ſaiſons*, the author obſerves that there are fewer deaths in the firſt than in the laſt ſix months of the year, in the ſpring than in the autumn.

" Je

" Je vis," says he, " qu'il falloit généraliſer la queſtion, et porter mes recherches ſur les nécrologes des diverſes contrées, qui tous me donnèrent la même concordance dans les différences. Je cherchai alors la cauſe générale d'un effet auſſi uniforme. Les découvertes et les recherches d'Ingenhouz, de Prieſtley, de Sennebier, ſur la végétation des plantes, les expériences que j'ai faites moi-même pour vérifier celles de ces ſavans, m'ont démontré, d'une manière inconteſtable, que le gaz, que nous nommons *aire fixe*, *air méphitique*, et qu'on eſt convenu auſſi et plus exactement de nommer *air nitrogène*, eſt abſorbé par les plantes en pleine végétation; que ces mêmes plantes exhalent un air pur, jadis nommé air *déphlogiſtiqué*, et connu à préſent ſous le nom de *gaz oxigène*; que toutes les plantes exhalent d'autant plus de cet air pur, qu'elles ſont en végétation plus active, qu'elles ſont plus frappées du ſoleil; que les feuilles et les plantes herbacées en donnent infiniment plus que les corps ligneux; que, lorſque les feuilles et les plantes herbacées ſont ſèches et ſe décompoſent, lorſqu'elles ſont privées des rayons du ſoleil, non-ſeulement elles n'exhalent plus de cet air pur, mais même qu'elles contribuent à vicier l'atmoſphère. Or, il eſt évident que, plus il y aura dans l'atmoſphère de cet air pur, plus elle ſera ſalubre; d'où l'auteur ſe croit autoriſé à trouver la cauſe générale de la plus grande mortalité dans certaines ſaiſons, à la plus grande pureté de l'air qu'on reſpire."

" Si mes vues," adds Mr. *M.* " ſe trouvent fondées, quelle prodigieuſe différence n'en réſulteroit-il pas dans l'intenſité des maladies ſur leſquelles l'influence de l'atmoſphère a le plus d'action, telles que les maladies de poitrine, les affections nerveuſes et une infinité d'autres? C'eſt un objet digne de l'obſervation de ceux qui ſe deſtinent à l'art de guérir. Ne pourroit-on pas eſpérer de parvenir à connoître les eſpèces d'air, les mélanges les plus favorables à chaque maladie? Seroit-il impoſſible de ſuppléer la nature, et de procurer aux malades un air qui eût des qualités, des modifications plus ou moins convenables à telle ou telle maladie, dans les ſaiſons pendant leſquelles l'atmoſphère n'en fournit pas? On eſt bien parvenu à faire des ſels, des eaux minérales artificielles qui imitent parfaitement les naturelles, et qui ſouvent ont plus de vertu."

The author has annexed to this eſſay the reſult of his meteorological obſervations, made at Montpellier, for fourteen years, on the ſtate of the mercury in the barometer and thermometer, and on its variations. The conſequences drawn by him with reſpect to the barometer are, " 1°. Que le froid et la chaleur influent beaucoup moins qu'on ne penſe, ſur la marche du mercure, puiſque des extrêmes de 36 degrés de température, ne préſentent qu'une très-foible différence dans la hauteur du baromètre; 2°. que la cauſe quelconque qui produit l'aſcenſion ou la deſcenſion du mercure dans le baromètre eſt bien plus active pendant l'hiver que pendant l'été, puiſque, malgré la condenſation que le mercure éprouve par le froid, cette cauſe quelconque le ſoutient à une hauteur à peu près égale à celle que nous voyons dans les temps les plus chauds."

ACKNOW-

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

If *A. M.'s* letter had been expreſſed with leſs petulance, and, above all, if it had not held forth the language of menace, we might have been diſpoſed to have given it a circumſtantial anſwer. As it is, we only recommend the writer more diſcretion and better temper.

S. S.'s letter will be attended to; and ſo will our old and approved Correſpondents, *X. Y. Z.* and *Philotes*.

We rejoice to hear that *Cenſorinus* is at length convinced by our arguments.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

The *Rev. Mr. Maltby* has nearly completed, at the Cambridge Preſs, a work, entitled *Illuſtrations of the Truth of the Chriſtian Religion.*

Mr. Pearſon is preparing for the preſs *Annotations* on the practical part of Dr. Paley's Principles of moral and political Philoſophy.

Dr. Darwin has finiſhed, and is about to print, a large poetical work, to which he has given the name of *the Shrine of Nature.*

Mr. Porſon's edition of *Medea* is very nearly finiſhed.

Mr. Marſh's work is completed in three additional volumes, which contain the whole of *Michaelis*, with *Mr. M.'s* own Notes on the three firſt Goſpels.

In the Clarendon Preſs.

Euclid's Elements, with the Books not publiſhed in Commandine, by the *Biſhop of Rocheſter.*

Ariſtotelis Rhetorica.

Hare on the Unreaſonableneſs of Scepticiſm (a private, not an Univerſity publication).

Catalogue of Graduates, to the end of 1800, by *Mr. Gutch*, will appear in three or four weeks.

The fragments and ſpurious works of *Plutarch* have lately been received from *Wyttenbach*, the editor, and are now in the preſs.

The Bookſellers have it in contemplation to publiſh an uniform ſeries of the moſt popular Periodical Papers, in pocket volumes. To commence with the *Spectator.*

A ſecond volume of *Sermons on the Parables* is preparing for publication, by *Mr. Farrer*, which will complete his plan.